

Farmers get 5-year grace on loans

AMMAN (Petra) — The Financial and Economic Committee of the Council of Ministers met on Saturday and decided to reschedule the repayment of loans granted to farmers from the Jordan Valley. The decision grants the farmers who have obtained loans for agriculture a period of five years before the loans mature for repayment. The committee also decided to raise the price paid by the Agricultural Marketing and Processing Corporation for tomatoes to JD 50 from JD 40 per tonne. The committee also reviewed the financial standing of various government-owned companies and took measures to balance situations wherever needed so that these companies could overcome obstacles that impede their work. The committee entrusted the Agricultural Credit Corporation, the Jordan Cooperative Organisation and the Jordan Valley Farmers Association with the task of conducting a comprehensive and detailed study on loans to the agriculture sector so that the government could adopt the necessary action to strengthen this sector.

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Gemayel arrives in London

LONDON (R) — Lebanese President Amin Gemayel arrived in London on Saturday for a three-day private visit during which he will hold talks with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe. A Foreign Office spokesman said Mr. Gemayel's talks with British leaders were likely to centre on the Middle East in general and in particular on Anglian church envoy Terry Waite, who disappeared on Jan. 20 during a mission to negotiate the freedom of foreigners held captive in the Lebanon. Mr. Gemayel will meet the foreign secretary on Sunday and on Monday he will hold talks with the prime minister. The Lebanese leader refused to make any comment when he stepped out of his private Middle East Airlines plane.

Gemayel outlines Lebanon reconstruction plan, page 7

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Rifai briefs cabinet on King's visit to Syria

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai Saturday briefed the cabinet on His Majesty King Hussein's visit last week to Syria and the King's talks with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad which covered bilateral relations and Arab and international concerns.

Cabinet endorses Canadian grant

AMMAN (Petra) — The Council of Ministers met on Saturday and endorsed an agreement between the Natural Resources Authority (NRA) and the Canadian International aid for exploration of oil under which the Canadian side will provide a grant totalling 18.02 million Canadian dollars in the form of services in seismological surveys and oil exploration in the Kingdom. The amount, to be appropriated in the year 1987-1988, will go into conducting surveys and oil exploration in areas to be decided soon. The minister of energy and natural resources was authorised by the Council of Ministers to sign the agreement with the Canadian side for the purpose of the grant. During its regular session on Saturday, the Cabinet also endorsed an agreement in the field of information between Jordan and Oman. The agreement was reached during the recent visit to Oman by the minister of information, Mr. Mohammad Al Khatib.

Majali visits southern region

AMMAN (Petra) — Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Prime Ministry Affairs Abdul Wahhab Al Majali on Saturday continued a tour of the southern region of the Kingdom in a move to review problems faced by the population of these areas and seek solutions to the problems. Mr. Majali visited the border point of Mudhawwara and inspected services provided to passengers crossing the border.

Arab justice ministers to meet here next month

AMMAN (J.T.) — Arab justice ministers will be holding a conference here April 11-14, according to Ministry of Justice sources. Minister of Justice Riyadh Al Shakra has extended invitations to all Arab justice ministers to attend the conference. Secretary General of Arab Justice Ministers Council Mohammad Miko is due here within the next two days for talks with Mr. Shakra and senior officials on arrangements and the agenda of the conference.

Egypt commissions 2 radar planes

CAIRO (AP) — Two U.S.-built E-2C Hawkeye radar planes were commissioned Saturday at an air force ceremony attended by Defence Minister Abdul Halim Abu Ghazala. The twin-engine turboprop aircraft are the first of five sold to Egypt under the United States military aid programme, which in recent years has averaged \$1.3 billion annually. They arrived last week from the United States via Canada and Italy. The other three will be delivered later, but no timetable has been announced.

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Arabs clash with Israeli forces in Gaza, West Bank and Golan

9 occupation soldiers wounded in day of protests

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Arabs clashed with Israeli police and soldiers in the occupied West Bank, Gaza Strip and Golan Heights on Saturday and reports said at least nine Israeli policemen and an unknown number of Arabs were wounded.

In the West Bank, Israeli police arrested 13 Palestinians after they staged a violent anti-Israeli demonstration, throwing stones at Israeli vehicles and burning tyres.

In Hebron, troops fired tear-gas and arrested 10 students from the Islamic college after they set up roadblocks, burned tyres, and threw stones at the soldiers, reports said.

In Ramallah, an Israeli army officer was slightly injured by stone-throwing Palestinians. Troops fired rubber bullets in the air when high school students tried to set up roadblocks and threw stones at army patrols.

In Nablus, troops fired several shots in the air and arrested three Palestinians when they burned tyres and threw stones, a spokesman said.

No details of Arabs injured were available in Saturday's protests against 19 years of Israeli occupation.

Students in Ramallah and East Jerusalem boycotted classes in further anti-Israeli protests.

Heights. Many have relatives living in Syria and contact each other by shouting across the border from an area known as the "Hill of Shouts."

Reporting the West Bank violence on Saturday, the press service said Israeli troops attacked and beat student demonstrators at the Islamic University in Hebron.

The army spokesman's office said 18 demonstrators were arrested after troops used tear gas to disperse a violent demonstration outside the university.

In Nablus, soldiers arrested three people after they set up improvised roadblocks of rocks and burning tyres, the army spokesman's office said.

The press service said in at least six high schools in Ramallah and the nearby Palestinian refugee camps at Al Bireh, Jela-zounne and Al Amri, troops dispersed demonstrators with tear-gas and made many arrests.

In Bethlehem demonstrators blocked roads with rocks and burning tyres, the military spokesman said. There were no reports of arrests or injuries.

In occupied Gaza City demonstrators for the sixth consecutive day staged a sit-down strike at the offices of the International Red Cross protesting the siege of the Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon.

Kidnappers call off possible hostages-for-prisoners deal

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Kidnappers on Saturday suspended an offer to swap three Americans and an Indian for 400 Arab prisoners in Israel.

Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine accused the United States with "exposing the lives of the hostages to grave threat" by rejecting "our just demands."

The group's handwritten statement, delivered to a Western news agency in Beirut's western sector, was accompanied by a photograph of one of the Americans, Robert Polhill, 53.

Another group, Islamic Jihad, released a picture of American hostage Terry Anderson along with a statement denying the group was involved in the kidnapping of Jean Obied, a prominent pro-Syrian Lebanese politician.

Mr. Polhill and the three others, all professors, were kidnapped Jan. 24 from the campus of Beirut University College

lim militia chieftain, Nabih Berri, to trade the four academics and an Israeli flier captured last October for the 400 prisoners.

"This issue will now remain suspended because of the American administration's insistence on exposing the lives of the hostages to grave danger and the unknown fate awaiting them, and because of its failure to respond to our just demands," the group said Saturday.

The statement accused the United States and Israel of being "terrorists and barbarians" for their policies in the occupied West Bank and Lebanon.

"But we shall not resort to their methods. Values shall remain essential... and you will find us merciful," the statement said. "We shall not shed the blood of innocents. As for the criminals, their punishment will be civilised," it added.

(Continued on page 3)

White House expects critical panel report

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The White House says it is ready to "take our lumps" (take responsibility) in a report set for release in 12 days by an investigatory board probing the Iran contra scandal.

"I think it's going to be a very critical report and a very tough report, and the tougher and the more critical the better," presidential spokesman Martin Fitzwater said Friday.

The board, named by President Ronald Reagan and headed by former Republican Senator John Tower is the only investigatory group that has talked with Mr. Reagan about his recollections of the affair. It also is the only panel that has reviewed typewritten transcripts of his personal notes.

Other investigations are being conducted by a court-appointed independent counsel and Senate and House of Representatives committees.

Meanwhile, a senior White House official was quoted Saturday as saying the Tower commission has uncovered "quite serious discrepancies" in the testimony of various administration officials and is expected to issue a report highly critical of White House foreign policy machinery.

Bonn orders suspected arms ship to turn back

BONN (R) — West Germany said Saturday it had ordered a freighter suspected of taking arms to Iran in contravention of West German law to turn back.

A Transport Ministry spokesman said the captain of the West German-registered Grefl had been contacted by radio and told to sail to a European Community country.

Bonn had asked Mediterranean states to inform it if the boat entered their territorial waters, he said.

The ship's Hamburg owners and the Danish company which had chartered the Grefl had been notified of the ministry's action, the spokesman added.

The owners, the Juergen Stahmer Shipping Company, told the Transport Ministry on Friday that there were no weapons on board the 4,300 tonne freighter although it was carrying a "dangerous load."

The Transport Ministry had not yet received a reply from the ship and its exact whereabouts were unknown, the spokesman said.

King receives NASA medal from Saudi astronaut

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein on Saturday received a gold medal commemorating the 1986 space flight by the U.S. space shuttle Discovery which carried Saudi Arabian Prince Sultan Ibn Salman Ibn Abdul Aziz, the first Arab astronaut, among its crew on board.

Prince Sultan, who arrived here earlier in the day, presented the King with the medal on behalf of the U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Agency (NASA). Similar medals are being presented by Prince Sultan to other Arab leaders.

In return, King Hussein presented the Prince with the Jordanian Al Kawkab Medal of the First Order.

The presentation took place at Al Nadwa Palace in the presence of Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn



His Majesty King Hussein receives a NASA medal from the Arab World's first astronaut, Prince Sultan Ibn Salman Ibn Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia.



and confers upon him the Kingdom's Al Kawkab Medal of the First Order on Saturday (Petra photos)

Shaker, the commander of the Royal Jordanian Air Force and Saudi Arabia's Ambassador to Jordan Ibrahim Al Sultan.

In a statement upon arriving in Amman on a two-day visit, Prince Sultan said that he was

happy to be in Jordan and to present the medal to the King. Prince Sultan urged Arab countries to give greater care to space science and benefit from it in economic, military security and cultural affairs. He also said his

participation in the Discovery flight was a source of great encouragement to his country to send more men for such flights and he himself was looking forward to taking part in future space trips.

Emergency food reaches Bourj Al Barajneh but more is needed

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Three trucks ran a gauntlet of rival gunmen through early morning darkness on Saturday to take tonnes of food to a besieged Palestinian camp where refugees were reported to be on the verge of starvation.

Witnesses quoted by news agencies said the privately-rented trucks, loaded with 15 tonnes of wheat and two tonnes of powdered milk, entered Bourj Al Barajneh camp in southern Beirut at 1:50 a.m.

Mohammad Hassan Sattari, political adviser at the Iranian embassy, accompanied the trucks into the settlement.

A doctor working at the camp has reported that some of the 30,000 refugees were eating rats, cats and dogs to survive a 17-week siege by fighters of Lebanon's Amal militia.

Amal sources said the situation at Bourj Al Barajneh and the nearby Shaila camp was "relatively quiet" and relief operations might be allowed to continue later.

Fuzilades of rocket-propelled grenades and machinegun fire had halted relief moves on Friday

an Lebanese bodyguard from the Iranian embassy was killed.

He had been trying to clear the way for two Iranian ambulances crammed with sacks of milk powder, while the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) abandoned two trucks carrying flour and milk powder when a gunman shot out their tyres at the entrance to Bourj Al Barajneh.

A Western doctor inside the camp renewed appeals on Saturday for international help to bring food to the trapped Palestinians.

"I've eaten dogs," said British surgeon Pauline Cutting. "In the past week people have been so hungry that now many have been eating cats and dogs in the camp."

Dr. Cutting, 35, is one of four Western medical staff who have remained working at Bourj Al Barajneh's Haifa Hospital despite the Amal siege.

"Five boys have been seen cooking a rat over a fire," Dr. Cutting told AP in a 15-minute interview conducted by radio.

She said that a woman was "shot at the edge of the camp while picking (wild) grass because

she has seven children and no food," adding that an 11-year-old boy was killed the same way.

"We appeal to international organisations to the United Nations to intervene to prevent these people dying of starvation," Dr. Cutting said, speaking on behalf of the medical team.

UNRWA was trying again Saturday to salvage an agreement with Amal for aid to be allowed into Bourj Al Barajneh.

UNRWA Deputy Commissioner-General Robert Dillon told Reuters in Vienna: "We are pursuing contacts with Amal to determine exactly what happened (on Friday) and see if our agreement can be salvaged."

"Anything that gets in is better than nothing," Mr. Dillon said by telephone from UNRWA's Vienna headquarters, but UNRWA was "disappointed" at Friday's events.

In Beirut, a Palestinian official said "the food they sent to the camp would only hold each family for one day."

(Continued on page 3)

Security Council appeals for treaty, page 2

West German hostages reportedly under threat

BONN (AP) — The kidnappers of two West German hostages in Lebanon have sent the Bonn government a letter threatening to harm their captives, a West German newspaper said Saturday.

Bonn officials now fear that the kidnappers may mutilate the hostages on their hands, feet or faces, the Hamburg-published Bild newspaper said.

"The Arab kidnappers threatened in their last letter to take 'bloody' action," Bild said. It did not name its sources for the story.

Bonn government officials refused comment on the report. The government has imposed a news blackout on its efforts to free the West German businessmen, Rudolf Cordes and Alfred Schmidt.

However, government officials have in the past acknowledged that they are in contact with the kidnappers and have received written messages and photographs from them.

Mr. Cordes and Mr. Schmidt were taken hostages in Lebanon shortly after a suspected Lebanese hijacker, Mohammad Ali Jamadei, was arrested in Frankfurt Jan. 13.

The kidnappers have demanded Hamadei's release, according to Bonn security sources.

West Germany also holds Hamadei's brother, Ali Abbas Hamadei, who was arrested at Frankfurt airport last month on suspicion he helped arrange the kidnappings of Mr. Cordes and Mr. Schmidt.

Kuwait trying to resolve differences between Yemens

KUWAIT (AP) — Kuwait is mediating a reconciliation between North and South Yemen, whose drive for reunification collapsed during a civil war in Aden, capital of South Yemen, last year, Arab diplomatic sources said Saturday.

The sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said that a visit to Sana last week by Kuwaiti Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Saud Al Osaimi was aimed at ensuring the return to South Yemen of more than 30,000 refugees who fled the country during the bloody conflict in January 1986.

The issue of the refugees represents a major obstacle hindering the normalisation of relations between the two Yemens, shaken when the civil war ended with the ouster of South Yemeni President Ali Nasser Mohammad.

Mr. Mohammad had led a drive for unity between Aden and

Sana. The new Aden leadership, led by President Haider Abu Baker Al Attas, has affirmed its commitment to the drive, but Mr. Mohammad has been threatening to use his base and supporters in North Yemen to create trouble for Aden.

Mr. Mohammad and 47 of his aides are being tried in absentia in South Yemen.

Coinciding with the Kuwaiti mediation report, Mr. Attas on Friday reiterated a general amnesty for all refugees with the exception of Mr. Mohammad and his aides. He spoke in an interview with the state-run Aden Radio.

He stressed they would have "full guarantees of security and freedom" if they returned to their country.

Mr. Attas said his country was keen on settling the problem of the refugees with North Yemen.

Iraqi jets stage massive air raids

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iraq said its warplanes bombed Bahrain again on Saturday, a day after it said its powerful air force jets have badly damaged the headquarters of the Baathist Revolutionary Guards in three air raids on the Iranian capital.

Baghdad Radio said separate formations struck the northwestern city of Tabriz and central Isfahan.

The broadcast quoted an unnamed military spokesman as saying Iraq was determined to "punish the Tehran rulers for the death and destruction they have caused." Iran fired a missile into Baghdad on Friday killing or wounding a number of civilians. It was the 11th missile to hit Baghdad this year.

Earlier Saturday, the vice-chairman of Iraq's ruling Revolutionary Command Council, Izzat Ibrahim, threatened to step up attacks to cover all Iranian territory.

Mr. Ibrahim, quoted by the Iraqi News Agency (INA), said: "Our deterrent and destructive raids will be stepped up in the forthcoming period to cover all Iranian territory unless Iran listens to Iraq's appeal for peace."

"The Iraqis are prepared to fight the Iranians from the north to the south, even if the war continues for 100 years and even if blood flows like rivers."

An Iraqi general was quoted as saying on Saturday Iraqi forces were on alert to combat a new Iranian offensive in the Gulf war.

"We expect an Iranian offensive at any moment, but we are ready for any aggression," Lieutenant-General Thabit Sultan, commander of the Fourth Army Corps, told Kuwait's Al Anba newspaper.

He said Iraqi forces were strongly positioned along the

whole war-front and at the "appropriate" time would retake land won by Iranian forces in order to restore Iraq's control over its international border.

Iraq would continue air raids on targets in Iranian cities, he said, as there could be no distinction between the so-called "war of the cities" and ground conflict.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) appealed on Friday for the second time in a month to Iran and Iraq to stop air attacks and bombardments against civilians.

Before Iran fired its surface-to-surface missile at Baghdad on Friday Iraq said its warplanes had raided Tehran seven times in 48 hours.

"There is no war called the war of the cities or of the frontline. It is (all) war," Lt.-Gen. Sultan said, adding that Iraq rejected any partial solution in the war.

Reporting Saturday's Iraqi attacks, Tebran Radio said Iraqi jets killed or wounded a number of civilians in attacks on seven Iranian cities.

It also quoted a military communiqué as saying Iranian fighter-bombers caused heavy damage in raids on "military economic installations" in the Kurdish town of Rawandiz and another centre in northern Iraq. The aircraft returned safely, it added.

Iraqi planes were reported to have hit Rasht, a provincial capital 240 kilometres northwest of Tebran near the Caspian Sea, for the first time this year.

Tabriz and Zanjan in the northwest, and the western towns of Malayer, Kuhdasht, Pole Dokhtar and Qorveh were also attacked on Saturday, the radio said.

Moscow and Tehran differ on Gulf and Afghan conflicts, page 2

Mubarak dissolves parliament and sets elections for April 6

CAIRO (Agencies) — An overwhelming majority of Egypt's voters gave President Hosni Mubarak a mandate to dissolve parliament and call new elections, the government announced Saturday.

Mr. Mubarak promptly decreed parliamentary elections on April 6.

Interior Minister Zaki Badr, who oversaw Thursday's referendum on whether to disband the 458-seat People's Assembly, told a news conference that 88.9 per cent of valid votes cast said "yes."

A few hours after Mr. Badr spoke, Mr. Mubarak issued a decree dissolving the assembly, setting the new election date and scheduling runoff balloting, if needed, for April 13.

The decree said the new assembly is to hold its first meeting on April 22.

A major task of the new legislature will be to choose a president for a six-year term, starting next Oct. 14. Mr. Mubarak's term expires the previous day, but his re-election is considered a foregone conclusion.

Mr. Mubarak's National Democratic Party (NDP) controlled more than 80 per cent of the outgoing assembly's seats and is expected to dominate the next chamber. NDP officials already have made clear the party intends to have parliament nominate Mr. Mubarak, 58, for a second term.

The constitution requires parliament to begin the presidential proceedings in mid-August and to put its nomination to the electorate in a yes-or-no referendum. Mr. Mubarak called the referendum on whether parliament should be dissolved two years

before its term expires namely because of doubts cast on its constitutionality.

Mr. Badr said his decision was an indication of the "people's will and a response to their legitimate expectations for representation along the lines of political powers on the Egyptian scene."

Mr. Badr said 76.5 per cent of the electorate turned out for Thursday's balloting. Eligible voters totalled about 14.4 million, and about 11 million of them voted, he said.

Out of 10,599,438 valid votes cast, he said, 9,423,384 endorsed dissolution of the assembly elected in May 1984 to a four-year term.

Mr. Mubarak suspended the assembly on Feb. 4 and sought the nation's approval of its termination because of a constitutional controversy over some provisions of the 1983 election law.

All five legal opposition parties complained that the law contained discriminatory and restrictive articles which breached the constitution. A suit was filed against the law in 1984 in the supreme constitutional court.

A panel of advisers to the court drew up a report agreeing that some provisions indeed violated the constitution.

Mr. Mubarak's ruling party, anticipating an adverse court ruling, pushed through parliament last December several amendments to meet some of the objections to the law.

The original measure banned independents from running for parliament and provided that only parties winning eight per cent or more of the national vote could take seats. It reserved 31 seats for women.

The amendments allowed one independent to run in each of the nation's 48 constituencies and scrapped the female seats.

Despite the amendments, criticised as insufficient by major opposition figures, Mr. Mubarak cut short the assembly's life and opted for a new chamber untainted by controversy in preparation for parliamentary action on the next presidential term.

Opposition leaders said Mr. Mubarak wanted an undisputed assembly elected before he seeks another term.

They complained that the present assembly was elected through unconstitutional electoral laws.

"We have always demanded the dissolution of this flawed assembly and a new constitution. I hope Mubarak now meets our second demand," Foad Serageldin, leader of the first opposition party, the New Wafd, told Reuters.

According to the constitution, parliament nominates one candidate for the presidency. The opposition wants a new system under which Egyptians can choose from several candidates.

Mr. Mubarak said he could not issue new laws to that effect in the absence of parliament, saying that only a new assembly could make such decisions.

In the last general elections in May 1984, the NDP won 391 seats and the Wafd the other 57 seats.

American congressman begins Iraq visit

BAGHDAD (AP) — U.S. Congressman Robert G. Torricelli began a visit to Iraq on Saturday, the first by an American representative since Washington and Baghdad restored diplomatic relations in November 1984.

Mr. Torricelli, a New Jersey Democrat, flew into Baghdad's Saddam International Airport late Friday, shortly after a long-range Iranian missile was reported to have slammed in an unnamed residential area of the Iraqi capital.

On Saturday, he took off in a car for a tour of Babylon, 120 kilometres south of the Iraqi capital, and other archaeological sites, a U.S. embassy official said.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said Mr. Torricelli's schedule is "fluid" and depends on which Iraqi official will be available to meet him and when.

State Department officials and economic delegations have visited Iraq since 1984.

But Mr. Torricelli, a member of the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee, is the first congressman to undertake such a trip since relations were restored after a 17-year rupture that followed the 1967 Arab-Israeli war.

Mr. Torricelli's visit comes as Iran and Iraq, at war since 1980, stepped up attacks on each other's main cities, including Baghdad and Tehran.

It also comes amid the controversy over a secret U.S. arms sale to Iran.

The United States professes neutrality in the conflict between Iran and Iraq and U.S. officials have said an Iranian victory would be disastrous.

But President Ronald Reagan said he agreed to the shipment of arms hoping to encourage moderate elements in that country.

Security Council appeals for truce in 'camps war'

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — The Security Council has called for an immediate ceasefire around Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon to permit relief supplies to reach the besieged residents.

The council's appeal was in the form of a so-called presidential statement, which was worked out behind closed doors without a formal vote Friday night.

A consensus was reached by the 15 council members after word reached here that two U.N. trucks carrying food to starving refugees in Beirut were fired on and prevented from reaching the besieged Bourj Al Barajneh camp. Reports said later some supplies reached the camp before dawn Saturday.

The statement, read to reporters by council President Peter Zure of Zambia, said council members were "deeply alarmed by the tragic suffering undergone by the civilian population, particularly inside the Palestine refugee camps, (and) they call on the parties concerned to observe an immediate ceasefire to permit access to these camps for humanitarian purposes."

The U.N. observer mission of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) said it would have preferred stronger council action but was satisfied with the humanitarian appeal.

A presidential statement is a minimal form of council action. The fact that there was no open debate and draft resolution reflected division within the Arab bloc over the issue. Observer status does not permit the PLO to act directly for an open council debate culminating in a more binding resolution.

Asked if he thought the statement would be effective, U.S. Ambassador Vernon A. Walters noted its humanitarian thrust and said, "It is difficult to say no to that."

The statement also urged the United States could play no direct role in bringing one about.

as well as non-governmental bodies, to provide critically needed humanitarian assistance. The members of the council repeated their call for a "speedy return to peace and a situation of normalcy and for the safeguarding of civilian lives in Lebanon."

In Washington, the State Department on Friday described the turmoil at Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon as "unacceptable to the civilised world" and urged all sides to cooperate in implementing an immediate ceasefire.

Voicing serious concern over the suffering of innocent civilians caught in the fighting in and around the camps in Beirut, Sidon and Tyre, department spokeswoman Phyllis Oakley described as "particularly alarming" the plight of refugees in Bourj Al Barajneh.

"We call on all parties immediately to implement a ceasefire, and to permit international humanitarian organisations to gain access to the camps and to other areas where their assistance is urgently needed," her statement said.

"We call on all contending parties in Lebanon to recognise that progress toward security requires that all inhabitants of Lebanon work to strengthen the rule of law," the statement said. "Only the Lebanese government and its security organs — the army and the police — can legitimately and effectively guarantee the security of Lebanese and Palestinian civilians."

Earlier this week, Secretary of State George Shultz said the people of Lebanon need to take more responsibility for conditions in their country, where factional fighting has brought a collapse of government authority.

On Friday, he refused to place the blame for the fighting in the camps. On Thursday he said it was up to the combatants to negotiate a truce and said the United States could play no direct role in bringing one about.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Weir calls for hostage negotiations

EUGENE, Oregon (R) — The Rev. Benjamin Weir, a former Presbyterian missionary held hostage in Lebanon for 16 months, has called for negotiations to win the release of the remaining U.S. hostages in Lebanon. Mr. Weir told a meeting of U.S. Presbyterian ministers and church representatives here the U.S. government should move quickly to designate someone to make contact with the captors. The initial goal would be to find out the minimum conditions for the release of the eight remaining American hostages, he said Friday. On the use of military force, Mr. Weir said: "Our threatening of possible military intervention very much electrifies the whole atmosphere and is against any possible negotiations." Mr. Weir, 63, of San Francisco, is the moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA), the highest elective office in the 3,000,000-member denomination. Mr. Weir spent 32 years in Lebanon as a Presbyterian missionary. He disagreed with U.S. government's rigid stand against negotiations with the kidnappers, saying things were different in the Middle East.

Princess Anne begins visit to Qatar

DOHA (R) — Britain's Princess Anne arrived in Doha on Saturday for a busy three-day visit which will include tours of oil installations and a camel ride in the Qatari desert. Princess Anne, president of the Save the Children Fund, arrived from Abu Dhabi and had an audience with Qatar's ruler Sheikh Khalifa bin Hamad Al Thani and his apparent and Defence Minister Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani. She was also to tour an oil refinery at Umm Sal, 40 kilometres south of Doha, and inaugurate a British commercial week later Saturday. On Sunday Princess Anne, on her first visit to the former British protectorate, will visit the Dukhan oilfield on the peninsula's western coast. She will also tour greenhouses at Shabaniyah 30 kilometres west of the capital before taking a two kilometre camel ride to Qatar's Oryx farm. The princess will visit Doha's naval base at Ras Abu Aboud on Monday and lay the foundation stone for the new English Doha college and Doha independent school. She will also visit a model poultry farm near the capital. She flies to Kuwait on Tuesday on the third leg of a Middle East tour which will also take her to Jordan.

Renton to visit Yemen, S. Arabia and Oman

LONDON (R) — British Junior Foreign Affairs Minister Tim Renton is to visit North Yemen, Saudi Arabia and Oman this month to discuss bilateral and regional issues. A Foreign Office statement said Mr. Renton would visit the Yemen Arab Republic (North Yemen) from Feb. 22 to 24, Saudi Arabia from Feb. 24 to 26, and Oman until March 2.

Gummen kill four in Tehran square

TEHRAN (R) — Gummen riding a motorcycle killed four passengers of a car in Tehran square two days ago, Islamic Republic newspaper reported Saturday. It said the gummen belonged to the "Mofatehin" — the hypocrites, the label used by the government to refer to the outlawed opposition Mujahideen-Khalq organisation whose leaders are based in Iraq — and managed to escape after the Thursday attack. The paper did not identify the victims. In a separate report, Islamic Republic quoted Serajeddin Mousavi, commander of Iran's revolutionary Komiteh police, as saying 335 "mofatehin spies" were arrested in the past 12 months.

Iranian woman gives birth to triplets

LONDON (AP) — An Iranian couple on Friday became the parents of Europe's first triplets born using the T-zet fertilisation technique. Farah Behrooznia, 28, and her husband Gholamreza, from Buscher, Iran, were delighted with the two boys and one girl, delivered by Caesarian section at the private Humana Hospital in London. "It is wonderful, the ideal family and just what we have always wanted," said Behrooznia, a 34-year-old customs officer. As she cuddled her new family, his wife said: "They are really ugly and make a noise like gypsies, but I am very happy. I want more babies." In the fertilisation technique, surgeons removed eggs from Mrs. Behrooznia and combined them with sperm from her husband, placing them in her fallopian tubes instead of in a glass dish in a laboratory as with previous "test-tube" fertilisation.

Syrians raid DFLP office

BEIRUT — Troops in Damascus stormed the office of a Marxist Palestinian group on Thursday and arrested one of its leaders in another sign of the growing split between Syria and the Palestine Liberation Organisation, (PLO) Beirut radio stations reported. Lebanese radio stations, describing the fighting in Damascus, said Syrian soldiers raged the headquarters of the Marxist group, the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), then stormed it and seized Issam Abdel Latif, a senior member of the group's central committee.

Radio commentators said the intent of the raid was to head off reconciliation talks between the group and the PLO chairman, Yasser Arafat — New York Times.

Gromyko differs with Velayati over Gulf and Afghan conflicts

MOSCOW (Agencies) President Andrei Gromyko has criticised Iran's support for guerrillas fighting Soviet-backed Afghan forces and said Moscow differed with Tehran on the Gulf war, the official News Agency TASS said.

"Our evaluation of that war and your views on it do not coincide," TASS quoted Mr. Gromyko as telling Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati, who is on an official visit to Moscow.

"Common sense suggests that the main attention should be paid not to the past but to the future — to ensuring that the war be discontinued," Mr. Gromyko said.

He said the Soviet Union wanted to see the war ended as soon as possible. Iran has said it will pursue the war until the government of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein is overthrown.

Mr. Gromyko told Mr. Velayati that Soviet troops would withdraw from Afghanistan when a political settlement of the conflict was achieved, and observed that the guerrillas used Iran as a base for their operations, TASS said.

"Of course, Iran bears the responsibility for the fact that its territory, too, is used as a base for the armed fight against Afghanistan," Mr. Gromyko was quoted as saying.

"The Iranian leadership would do good if it promoted a solution to the Afghanistan issue by political means and used all its influence to bring the truth to Afghans in Iranian territory about the decision of the Afghan government on the national reconciliation issue," Mr. Gromyko said.

Earlier on Friday, Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze met Mr. Velayati, the highest ranking Iranian official to visit the Soviet Union since the 1979 revolution.

U.S. to keep 2 carriers in Mediterranean

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. navy has been directed to rearrange its deployment schedule in order to maintain two carriers in the Mediterranean sea indefinitely, according to informed sources.

The decision by the administration of President Ronald Reagan means the aircraft carrier Kitty Hawk, now on patrol in the Indian Ocean, will move to the Mediterranean via the Suez Canal in early March to relieve the carrier Kennedy, the sources said. The Kennedy's departure for the United States was delayed late last month.

"We're back to two full-time," said one official, who agreed to discuss the matter only if not identified. "The plan now is to keep the Kennedy there until the Kitty Hawk moves in," he added. The current build-up of naval forces in the Mediterranean began more than two weeks ago in response to rising tensions in

the Middle East and a wave of hostage-taking in Lebanon.

Although the Defence Department subsequently reduced the battle group slightly last week in an move to defuse rumours that a military strike was in the offing, the United States is still maintaining two carriers and a Marine amphibious group of 1,900 men in the Eastern Mediterranean.

Besides the Kennedy, the battle group includes the carrier Nimitz and roughly 20 other ships, including the Marine group.

Pentagon and White House spokesmen have insisted repeatedly that the naval force is being stationed as a precaution and that no military strike in Lebanon is being planned. Pentagon sources have added the force is there primarily in case Mr. Reagan wanted to order a response to any hostage killings.

The sources said Friday the United States' efforts to gather

intelligence in the region on the activities and whereabouts of underground groups had improved over the past year, but that it would still be difficult to "retaliate with precision" against any particular organisation.

The U.S. and other Western hostages in Beirut are believed to be held by several different groups.

The Pentagon sources said the Kennedy remained at sea on Friday, conducting a routine patrol off the coast of Lebanon. The sources added the Nimitz was also at sea, but had been authorised to begin a port call this weekend in Alexandria, Egypt.

Until early 1980, the navy routinely kept two carriers on station in the Mediterranean. Starting in that year, however, because of developments in Iran and Afghanistan, the United States began regular patrols in the Indian Ocean.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel. 77311-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Programme Review
15:35 Health Child
16:30 A Whole World of Children
17:00 Raising It All
17:30 Local Agricultural Programme
18:00 Arabic Series
19:00 Local Programme
19:30 Programme Review
20:30 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic Series
21:30 Local Programme
21:35 Tomorrow's programmes
22:00 TV Magazine (local)
23:00 News summary in Arabic
23:10 Arabic Series

PROGRAMME TWO

17:30 Julien Fontaines Magistral
19:00 News in French
19:15 La Vallée des Peupliers
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:40 Varieties
20:30 News in Arabic
20:30 Who's the Boss
21:15 The Day the Universe Changed (documentary)
22:00 News in English
22:30 Magnum

RADIO JORDAN

835 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM & partly on 95.0 KHz, SW Tel. 77411-19

07:00 Light Music
07:30 Newsdesk
08:00 Morning Show
10:00 News Summary
10:05 Pop Session
11:00 In Concert
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Pop Talk
13:00 News Summary
13:05 Pop Session cont.
13:40 News Bulletin
14:10 Instrumentals
14:15 Science Report
15:00 Concert Hour
15:00 News Summary
16:00 Instrumentals
16:30 Old Favourites
17:00 Listeners' Choice
18:05 News Summary
18:05 Jazz Hour
19:00 Newsdesk
19:30 Date with a Star
20:00 Evening Show
21:00 News Summary
21:05 Evening Show continued

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

FILM

* Rumpelstiltskin (film for children)
Nach dem bekannten Grimmechen Märchen 16:30 hrs. at Geol.- Institute.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre .. Tel. 6610267
American Centre Library .. 64371
British Council .. 6361478
French Cultural Centre .. 637009
German Institute .. 6671816
Soviet Cultural Centre .. 64203
Spanish Cultural Centre .. 624049
Turkish Cultural Centre .. 639777
Hayat Arts Centre .. 665195
Hussein Youth City .. 6671816
Y.W.C.A. .. 641793
Amman Municipal Library .. 637111
Univ. of Jordan Library .. 843355

MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also models from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m.-5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760.

Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9.00 a.m.-5.00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.

Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th century orientalist artists. Mount Zabal, Jabal Lweibdeh. Opening hours: 10.00 a.m. - 1.30 p.m. and 3.00 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 630128.

Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military 19th century orientalist artists. Mount Zabal, Jabal Lweibdeh. Opening hours: 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.

SERVICE CLUBS

Llano Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1.30 p.m.

Llano Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7.30 p.m.

Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1.30 p.m.

Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the International Hotel, 2.00 p.m.

Royal Automobile Club. Jabal Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 816334, 817334.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, Tel. 624590.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Lweibdeh, Tel. 771331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 775261.

St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, Tel. 771751.

Amman International Church (Inter-denominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani, Tel. 677534.

Evangelical Lutheran Church Jabal Amman, 6th Circle, (Rev. N. Smir), Tel. 811295.

PRAYER TIMES

6:57 Fajr
6:16 Sunrise (Sunset) Daba
11:59 Dhuhur
14:57 'Asr
17:23 Maghrib
18:43 'Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06) 53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

09:00 Agaba (RJ)
09:00 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
09:25 Jeddah (RJ)
10:00 Kuwait (RJ)
10:05 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
10:20 Cairo (RJ)
10:30 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
10:40 Athens (RJ)
10:45 Brussels, Frankfurt (RJ)
10:50 Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

06:25 Bucharest (RO)
06:30 Frankfurt (LH)
06:30 Larnaca, Amsterdam (KL)
06:30 Damascus, Paris (AF)
06:30 Damascus, Rome (AZ)
06:30 Larnaca, Berlin (IF)
11:30 Athens (SV)
12:30 Cairo (MS)
13:00 Tripoli (LN)
13:30 Baghdad (JA)
14:00 Salalah, Abu Dhabi, Mascat (GF)

DEPARTURES ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

06:45 Agaba (RJ)
06:50 Tunis, Casablanca (TJ)
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11:30 Athens (RJ)
12:30 Cairo (RJ)
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21:00 Kuala Lumpur, Singapore (RJ)
21:00 Baghdad (RJ)
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21:15 Cairo (RJ)
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23:00 Bangkok (RJ)

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21:00 Baghdad (RJ)
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21:15 Cairo (RJ)
22:00 Dubai, Muscat (RJ)
23:00 Bangkok (RJ)

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Amman governorate 891228
Amman Civil Defence 198, 199
Civil Defence Jrbid 27123, 27331
Civil Defence Quesneir 77073
Civil Defence Deir Alla 37596
Ambulance 193, 775111
Amman downtown fire brigade 198
First aid 630341
Police headquarters 639141
Police traffic 8963901
Electric Power Co. 636381/4

NEWS IN BRIEF

New bridge offices begin operations

SOUTH SHUNEH (Petra) — As of Sunday, Feb. 15, travellers across the King Hussein Bridge to the West Bank and those coming to the East Bank will be processed at new offices set up by the Public Security Department, according to Lt.-Col. Khalid Shahin, director of the police stations at the bridge. Travellers previously checked in and out at old offices which had been in use since the 1967 occupation of the West Bank.

Crackdown on overtaking starts today

AMMAN (Petra) — The police will launch a campaign today to crackdown on motorists who try to overtake other vehicles in violation of rules and regulations. Bad overtaking and violations are a major cause of serious accidents, a police spokesman said, adding that the campaign is designed to reduce road accidents and ensure safety on the roads. Last year's accidents, the spokesman said, registered a noticeable drop over those of the previous year, largely due to greater public awareness and the two-week campaign starting Sunday is aimed at further reducing accidents.

IDB extends \$14m loan to Jordan

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jeddah-based Islamic Development Bank (IDB) has agreed to grant Jordan a \$14 million loan to contribute towards financing stage II of the Aqaba Thermal Power Station, according to Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) Governor Hussein Al Qasem. Mr. Qasem was speaking after his return from Jeddah where he took part in the meetings of the IDB executive board. He added that the board decided to implement a recommendation put forward by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan to the 10th annual meeting of the IDB board of governors last March that the IDB increase credit facilities to Islamic countries facing financial problems.

Iraqi speaker sends message to Fayez

AMMAN (Petra) — Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Akef Al Fayez on Saturday received a message from Speaker of the Iraqi Parliament Sadoun Hamadi. The message was submitted to Mr. Fayez during a meeting he held with Iraqi Ambassador in Amman Ghafel Jassem Hussein. During the meeting, Mr. Fayez and the Iraqi ambassador reviewed existing bilateral relations and the latest developments in Iran-Iraq war.

Dentists delegation returns

AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation from the Jordanian Dentists Association (JDA) returned to Amman on Saturday after taking part in the council meetings of the Arab Dentists Federation which concluded Thursday in Dubai. JDA President Walid Maraga said that during its five-day meetings the council decided to support the emergency fund for Arab dentists in the occupied Arab territories and to allocate two scholarships for post-graduate studies for West Bank dentists. He added that the council also decided to hold the 15th conference for Arab dentists here in April. The meeting also discussed the federation's activities and general budget for the last year, he added.

IJLTC moves 4.97 million tonnes

AMMAN (Petra) — The fleet of lorries and other vehicles owned by the Iraqi-Jordanian Land Transport Company (IJLTC) carried 4,962,391 tonnes since its establishment in 1980 up until the end of 1986, according to a company spokesman. He said that most of the shipments made by the fleet's during that period were between Aqaba and Baghdad. He said that each of the fleet's vehicles carried an average of 1,625 tonnes each month during 1986 alone.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Committee for Solidarity with the Sudanese Saturday addresses the Jordanian National People at the University of Jordan (Petra photo)

Municipality hosts symposium on urban organisation, town planning

AMMAN (Petra) — A five-day symposium on modern city organisation was opened at the Greater Amman Municipality on Saturday. Delegates from different government departments and municipalities will be discussing subjects related to organising cities, industrial and economic projects within the city boundaries, infrastructure projects, traffic problems, comprehensive security measures inside cities, urban development programmes, first aid and emergency centres and environmental planning.

Addressing the opening session was Greater Amman Acting Mayor Ismail Armouti who reviewed the development of Amman from the time it was a village situated on the Amman stream and inhabited by a few hundred settlers at the turn of the century. He went on to discuss Amman's transformation into a major city inhabited by nearly a million people and provided with all means of convenience and services.

Ministry cautions shopkeepers about 'hiding' cigarettes

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Supply on Saturday warned that it would take strict measures against store owners who try to hide cigarettes or refrain from selling them to customers.

In a statement, the ministry said that locally-made cigarettes have disappeared from the shelves and some shopkeepers were trying to hide the cigarettes. The prices of local cigarettes went up by 30 fils a pack as of last Tuesday, in accordance with a defence order issued by Minister of Industry and Trade Rajai Muasher. The price of foreign imported cigarettes went up by 50 fils a pack at the same time.

Czech delegation due Feb. 17

AMMAN (Petra) — A Czechoslovak economic delegation is due here on Feb. 17 on an official visit to Jordan expected to last four days. During the visit, the delegation led by the under secretary of the Czech Ministry of Foreign Trade, will hold talks with Jordanian officials at the Ministry of Public Works and the Ministry of Industry and Trade on promoting bilateral trade and economic cooperation. The delegation members will also tour archaeological sites in the Kingdom.

Traditional Arab jewelry gets a new lease of life

By Najwa Najjar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Traditional motifs of the Middle East region may soon be forgotten as these days they rarely used to decorate clothes and jewelry and only minor attempts have been made in the Arab World to ensure the continuation of this art form. One individual who has been involved in reviving indigenous symbols is Mrs. Azza Fahmy.

For the past 18 years, Mrs. Fahmy of Egypt has been using traditional symbols in fashioning jewelry made for the woman of today. She has travelled extensively in the Middle East region to study the old motifs and geometric patterns of the traditional designs in each country. "Without my knowing it, the various figures I saw were imprinted in my mind, and every time I wanted to design a piece of jewelry, I was able to draw from my memory," she said during her recent visit to Amman.

Combination of styles

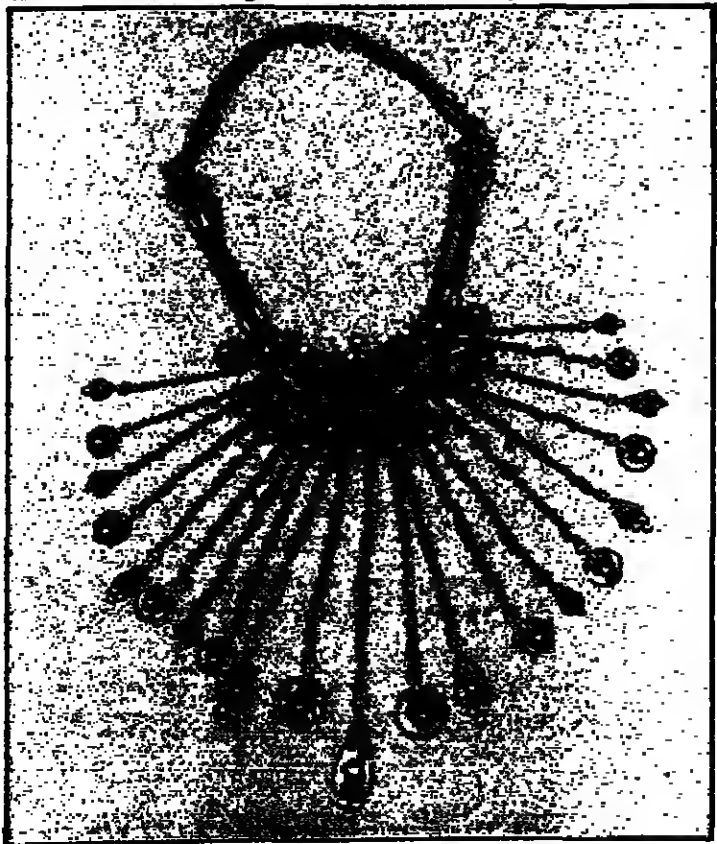
Therefore, in many of her works one can see a combination of old designs, such as in a pair of earrings which are a replica of antique Iraqi earrings, except for two lovebirds in the middle, a character often found in traditional Egyptian patterns. Other pieces in her collection are identical copies of the pieces of jewelry whose design and motifs are on the verge of extinction. Often, however, there are slight modifications to make the jewelry more appropriate for the modern woman without ruining the original motif, said Mrs. Fahmy. For example, some of the pieces would be too heavy to wear if the same amount of silver in the authentic piece was used in the jewelry Mrs. Fahmy was producing. Similarly, she has made the earring loop thinner in order not to tear the lobe.

Not only are the different symbols combined, but Mrs. Fahmy also uses three kinds of metals in her work. She buys broken pieces of gold, silver and brass and

melts them down. Then, using traditional techniques, Mrs. Fahmy makes her jewelry from one of the metals, or a combination of two or three metals. Some of her work is further embellished with semi-precious stones such as turquoise, coral, pearls and black agate and a few silver dipped in gold bracelets are adorned with Arabic calligraphy.

Exhibitions

Over the years Mrs. Fahmy's work has proved to be a success as she has had exhibitions in Kuwait, Jordan, Abu Dhabi, the United States and over 25 displays in Cairo. However, success did not come overnight. Mrs.



A replica of an old Palestinian silver necklace.

Fahmy studied interior design at the faculty of art at Cairo University. After a couple of years of work in this field, she decided that she would rather design jewelry. "I saw that the majority of the fashionable jewelry came

from Europe and thought why not make fashionable jewelry with traditional designs here," Mrs. Fahmy said.

"When I first started, I worked five years in a silversmith's workshop in Khan Al Khalili because I wanted to make my jewelry not only design them, and no one but me could know exactly how I wanted a piece to be made," she continued.

While learning the tricks of trade, Mrs. Fahmy worked with simple Egyptian designs. "As I began to look at the traditional designs in the region, my own designs became more complicated, but I did not know the techniques to make them," she said. Her problem was soon

her own workshop in her home. Ten years ago she was able to establish a small factory which presently employs 25 workers. "I still make the first design of the jewelry, be it a ring, necklace, earring, pendant, bracelet, brouch or belt, but then those working with me reproduce it." She said that being both a collector and a silversmith has had another important advantage. "As a silversmith I am especially aware of the details in the workmanship, and as a collector I pay special attention to the intricacies in the motif, and therefore when it comes to creating my own piece of jewelry I am able to make the finest detail in the design."

She expressed regret that "not many people care to preserve this traditional art," noting that "Moroccans may be an exception since King Hassan has given special attention to this area as a large part of Morocco's internal revenue comes from traditional crafts."

Her future plans include establishing a training centre to teach children the traditional craft. "I was very impressed when I visited such a training school in Morocco. Children enroll at a very young age and for the next ten years they only copy different traditional designs from the region. Thereafter, they are given metals in which they have to create their own designs," said Mrs. Fahmy. This method ensures that the indigenous motifs will not be lost, she added.

Mrs. Fahmy will also continue creating jewelry and next week many of her collection will be on display in West Germany. Completion time for a piece ranges from one to ten days, and price can be anywhere between five to 5000 Egyptian pounds.

Correction

In yesterday's issue, the Jordan Times carried a news item from the Jordan News Agency, Petra, in which it was reported that a joint Jordanian-Saudi Arabian investment company with a capital of \$500 million had been formed. The capital of the company is in fact \$50 million.

Workshop
Upon her return she opened

Prince Hassan thanks national committee for its assistance to Sudan

Crown Prince chairs meeting to review relief, development programmes in Kass area

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan on Saturday voiced appreciation for the work done by the Jordanian National Committee for Solidarity with the Sudanese People and he praised the strong relations between the Sudanese and Jordanian peoples.

Prince Hassan, who was addressing a meeting of the national committee at the University of Jordan, paid special tribute to the Jordanian medical missions which were sent to Sudan to offer medical and health assistance to the victims of drought and famine. Prince Hassan also praised other medical missions from different countries which have been operating in Sudan offering their help to the Sudanese people.

He said that relations between Jordan and Sudan were continuing to grow and form a model for cooperation among other Arab countries.

The committee met at the Faculty of Engineering to review the various activities and achievements carried out by its teams in Sudan.

Dr. Abdul Salam Al Ahbadi, under secretary of the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs and the committee's rapporteur, also spoke at the meeting and reviewed the activities which, he said, were greatly appreciated by the Sudanese people and various world organisations.

Dr. Ahbadi spoke about the committee's two phase plan with

its short and long term programmes. The short-term plan is of an urgent nature and aims at stemming the spread of contagious diseases, curbing pollution, combating malaria and organising vaccination campaigns and maintaining water wells. Dr. Ahbadi continued. He said that the second phase of the plan envisages carrying out projects to reconstruct the stricken regions and to provide a decent means of living for the people by creating job opportunities.

Dr. Ahbadi said that projects to be carried out include laying water and electricity network, constructing sanitary facilities at the city of Kass and building an agricultural secondary school, in cooperation with the Islamic Development Bank.

Agricultural development

The committee's plan also entails setting up and encouraging agricultural development schemes to be carried out in coordination with the Sudanese authorities with financing from a number of Arab funds and with Jordanian technical help. Dr. Ahbadi added.

Also speaking was Dr. Anwar Bilbeisi, the secretary general of the Jordan Medical Council. He outlined the activities of the Jordanian medical missions to Sudan and said that nine missions comprising 20 physicians and specialists and nurses were sent to Sudan.

The general health conditions of the people of Kass have improved as a result of the help these Jordanian medical teams have provided, Dr. Bilbeisi pointed out.

During the meeting, a general review was made of the different types of cases treated at Kass hospital by Jordanian teams.

The meeting was attended by doctors and specialists from the Health Ministry, the Royal Medical Services, the University of Jordan, the University of Science and Technology and other concerned specialists along with Lt.-Gen. Ahmad Abdul Aziz, director of Sudanese medical services, and Sudan's ambassador to Jordan.

The committee, chaired by Prince Hassan, was formed in September 1985 and groups representatives of Jordanian public and private sectors. The formation of the committee followed the news of the tragedy in Sudan and Prince Hassan's visit to the stricken regions. The national committee launched a fund-raising campaign in Jordan for the benefit of the famine victims in Sudan.

Government provides for revisions in W. Bank employees' salaries

AMMAN (Petra) — The government has left the door open for revisions of the salaries paid to West Bank employees at the start of every fiscal year with the purpose of providing financial help to them and improving their living conditions, Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Dudin announced on Saturday.

He said that his ministry, in cooperation with other concerned government departments, would gather information about employees appointed to their present posts after the 1967 occupation. He said this was being done in a bid to make recommendations to the government and the higher committee for occupied territories affairs in order to take proper decisions in support of those employees.

Mr. Dudin was addressing a delegation representing government employees in the occupied West Bank who were appointed after the 1967 war.

Any increase in salaries paid to West Bank employees would not be part of the government's sponsored five-year economic and social development plan but forms part of the country's general budget, the minister pointed out.

The government's recent decision to increase the salaries of employees affiliated to the Ministry of Education came in view of the fact that they form the largest sector among the government employees in the occupied territory, Mr. Dudin continued. The government will not spare any effort to extend similar support to the remaining government employees, the minister added.

He stressed that the government, under the guidance of His Majesty King Hussein, was very concerned about the conditions of government employees as it appreciates their efforts and the services they provide to the local inhabitants.

Delegation expresses thanks

The delegation voiced their appreciation and gratitude to the government for its decision to increase their salaries and they expressed hope that this support would also be extended to all other employees. They expressed support for the King's endeavours to help the people of the occupied territories strengthen their steadfastness in the face of the Israeli occupation and in the light of the very difficult conditions they face.

Also Saturday, the minister received a memorandum signed by 300 teachers employed by the Jordanian government in the occupied West Bank expressing appreciation to the government for its decision to improve their living conditions.

Jordan Times Tel: 667171-6

Emergency food reaches camp

(Continued from page 1)

The Shatila camp was also "not far away" from reaching a stage where the camp's 5,000 Palestinian refugees will be forced to eat cats, dogs and rats, according to a Canadian doctor.

"The situation, although it hasn't become yet as catastrophic as in the other camp, will become so," Chris Giannou, 37, of Toronto, told reporters by radio from Shatila.

Saturday's relief operation followed months of intensive international mediation aimed at ending a battle for control of five refugee camps in Beirut and South Lebanon, in which at least 790 people have been killed.

Mr. Arafat's mainstream Fateh organisation has been at the forefront of fighting over the past four months. Mr. Arafat accuses Amal and its ally, Syria, of trying to force Palestinians out of Lebanon.

Amal has said it will not lift its siege until it recovers all positions it lost to Palestinian fighters last November at the hilltop village of Maghdousbeh in South Lebanon.

Kidnappers scrap possible deal

(Continued from page 1)

The remark, which concluded the statement, appears to suggest that the kidnappers were not contemplating killing their hostages at present.

The underground group Islamic Jihad, meanwhile, said in a statement delivered to a Western news agency it would "mete out the just punishment" to whoever claimed Mr. Obeid was kidnapped by the group.

A caller to the rightist-controlled Voice of Lebanon on Thursday had claimed Mr. Obeid's abduction on behalf of Islamic Jihad.

Mr. Obeid, 50, a former poli-

tical adviser to President Amin Gemayel, was abducted from his chauffeured limousine in west Beirut on Thursday.

Islamic Jihad, believed made up of pro-Iranian extremists, has said in the past it would accompany its statements by a photograph of one of its hostages to prove their authenticity.

Several Islamic Jihad statements since November have been accompanied by a photograph of Mr. Anderson, 39, chief Middle East correspondent of AP.

The latest black-and-white picture appeared to be one of a series that Islamic Jihad started releasing Nov. 15.

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Jordan Times

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Jordan Times advertising department.

Through economic coordination.....

THE Arab Economic and Social Council, which has just concluded its 42nd session in Riyadh, could well turn out to be the most promising inter-Arab forum for promoting cooperation and pushing forward the frontiers of economic and social coordination among Arab countries.

We are all familiar with the pivotal role that the EC has played in enhancing not only economic unity between western European countries but also in political matters. It is common knowledge that economic cohesion is a foundation on which political unity can be forged. With this in mind we wholeheartedly support the efforts and calls to accelerate economic cooperation and coordination between Arab countries with a view to establishing a truly institutionalised and fully functional Arab common market. The recommendation opted at the 42nd session of the Arab Economic and Social Council that Arab countries which have not yet ratified the pan-Arab agreement on facilitating and developing commercial exchange and the united Arab agreement on investment should do so as soon as possible is a step in the right direction. There were other action-oriented recommendations taken by the council, notably that which called on Arab countries to faithfully observe existing inter-Arab economic agreements and to scrap existing restrictions on the flow of Arab manufactured goods to other Arab countries. The proposal to request the Arab Monetary Fund to facilitate the settlement of payments among Arab countries complements the other vital proposals adopted by the council, including one to benefit from long-term financing programmes recently drawn up by the Jeddah-based Islamic Development Bank.

All these ideas and recommendations, if implemented, would promote inter-Arab economic and social cooperation and would provide a sound foundation for political coordination among Arab countries. Of course, even economic recommendations and decisions require a political will to make them work and render them functional.

The Arab World, despite various efforts to achieve political understanding and harmony, is still in deep-rooted disarray and disunity. We have not knocked hard enough on the door of the economic front, even though it could offer the Arab World a real opportunity to achieve direct, institutionalised political unity and coordination which other approaches have failed to accomplish. If and when inter-Arab economic relations are put on the right course, they could very well provide the necessary momentum and environment for real political understanding and coordination between Arab countries.

But it is not enough just to open the door of economic and social cooperation among Arab countries within the context of the Arab Economic and Social Council. Rather the subject matters and the objectives of this inter-Arab forum must be pursued with vigour and determination lest inter-Arab inertia set in again to result in only words, resolutions and recommendations. Jordan along with the rest of the Arab World should accord this Arab council the priority it rightfully deserves and we all should play the pivotal role necessary to make it the action-oriented inter-Arab forum it should be.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Is Shultz changing heart?

A few days ago American Secretary of State George Shultz sent a message to Israel's Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir containing Washington's views about the proposed international conference which could be a means for ending the Arab-Israeli conflict on the basis of direct negotiations. So far no more has been disclosed about the American views vis-a-vis such a conference, and we hope that these views would be different from Washington's earlier ideas of direct Arab-Israeli talks. It is useful to remind the United States and Israel that Arab countries' call for such a conference was quite clear, and demands the participation of all permanent members of the United Nations Security Council in addition to all parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict including the Palestine Liberation Organisation. The Arabs want such a conference to implement Security Council resolutions on the Middle East issue especially the one that prohibits the occupation of other countries' territory by force. In this light we can say that Washington should realise that such a conference should not exclude any of the concerned parties and that the main aim of the meeting should be the implementation of Security Council resolutions. Unless the Americans agree to this there can be no successful conference and their views about an international conference would be unacceptable.

Al Dustour: Shamir goes shopping to U.S.

IN preparation for a visit by Israel's Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir to the United States, the Israeli government has drawn up a list of demands and types of military weapons which Shamir will present to the U.S. administration. Israel has been preparing the list without a single thought about any idea of peace and the proposed international conference. Even a suggestion on this conference made to Israel by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz has been completely ignored. It seems that Shamir realises that the U.S. administration can and will do nothing to exert pressure on Israel because of the powerful Zionist lobby in Washington, and for this reason he continues to ignore any ideas by the White House or the U.S. administration unless they serve the interests of the Jewish state and the Zionist movement. Shamir is so confident that the list of weapons he is seeking for Israel will be given to him because of the Zionist lobby's influence. Shamir is so confident that the U.S. administration will respond favourably to all his demands, and we would not be surprised if George Shultz issued an apology to Shamir about his ideas on an international conference.

Sawt Al Shaab: No justification

NOW that the Amal militia has retrieved Maghdousheh and re-stationed its forces in it, there can be no more justification for a continued siege of refugee camps and shelling of their residents. The continued shelling is bound to cause more tragedies and more sufferings of the Palestinians and the Lebanese alike and is a major obstacle to the achievement of peace in Lebanon. The continued war and the civil strife that involves warring factions in Lebanon can by no means achieve any success for any one of them over the other, and therefore the most proper solution is a national reconciliation and a comprehensive and lasting peaceful settlement. But first the shelling of the refugee camps should stop because the shelling and the siege have brought the country to a new dangerous situation and caused the death of innocent people.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

Reflections on measures to save expenditures

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

THE fiscal measures announced by the government last week to back the treasury and to narrow the gap between revenues and public expenditure and to reduce the deficit were long overdue.

The first and certainly the most important measure adopted was to tame current expenditure and lay down the ways and means to achieve this objective. The importance of this step has become obvious after the continued growth of these expenses each year, despite the absence of inflation and lack of economic growth that may have justified the expansion in public consumption in the past. Curbing expenditure is a widely used expression in the Budget Law and also in the 1987 draft budget delivered to Parliament by the minister of finance. The essential point is not to call for lower expenses but rather to pinpoint the targets for the savings axe. The cabinet decision did not describe the means which would be employed to accomplish this task. Maybe the details are not yet finalised and are still under consideration.

It is evident however, that curbing public expenditure is not an easy task that can be accomplished by a pen stroke. There has to be a price to be paid and victims to suffer, but the process has to start any way, and there is no room for further delays.

In this respect, it should not be sufficient to limit the travel of official delegations abroad, nor is it enough to cut down on the attendance of conventions or seminars held abroad. It is also not enough to negotiate with suppliers here in Amman instead of going right into their offices.

For besides these areas of savings, the government may have to kill some redundant public institutions which have failed their mission and ended without roles to play in our life.

Cutting expenses should not be limited to strict government departments, but should extend to reach all public sector corporations, authorities, and other independent units, which work overtime to invent means to borrow, spend, import equipment, and expand.

In order to enhance revenues however, the government decision was more specific. It increased duties on cigarettes and alcoholic beverages. This source of revenues has always been used whenever the government needed more revenue. It is feared that both cigarettes and alcohol are already overtaxed beyond the optimum level. On the other hand it is no secret that a great quantity of cigarettes and alcohol consumed in Jordan are not taxed at all. The present increase in duties on both commodities may reduce the

proceeds without reducing the consumption and is poised to make smuggling more profitable.

There is no doubt that increasing the duty on ready-made clothes was a sound decision. It will not only yield more revenue from well-to-do consumers, but it will also encourage local manufacturing and expand the business of tailoring which in turn would create more jobs and save foreign exchange. Perhaps the government should also increase duty on ready-made furniture to achieve the same positive results, especially when the know-how and the production capacity in this field are already there.

However, the increase of customs on white cement and iron bars may act as a negative incentive to investment. These building materials are not used for consumption. Making them more expensive will reflect on the cost of investments. It is in fact another way to investors.

Finally, the government decision to cure the budget deficit must be hailed as a positive sign, indicating that the government is now fully aware of the fiscal problem, and is determined to find effective solutions.

The PLO's return to the Lebanese equation

By Rashid Hassari

The following article is reprinted from the London-based Middle East International. The writer is a Lebanese journalist and writer residing in London.

THE renewed assertiveness of the Palestinian fighters in Lebanon, as demonstrated in the latest round of the "camps war," has considerable psychological and political implications for Lebanon. While most observers have stressed the regional dimension of the struggle for the camps, seeing it as a new phase in the long-running PLO-Syrian conflict, it is in fact at the inter-Lebanese rather than at the regional level that the Palestinian revival may have most impact.

The Palestinians' recent successes will of course have some regional repercussions. They boost the standing of the PLO and its chairman Yasser Arafat, and revive the chances of unity among Palestinian organisations, while presenting Syria with a head-on challenge to its authority in Lebanon. But such successes, vital though they may be for Palestinian morale, are unlikely to determine the regional balance of power or the course of the Arab-Israeli conflict. The Palestinians may succeed in holding on to their gains, but they realise all too clearly that their backs are still against the wall, and that a return to even a degree of the freedom of movement they enjoyed pre-1982 is simply unthinkable at present.

The Israeli invasion of 1982, and the subsequent Syrian-Palestinian confrontations in the Beqaa valley and north Lebanon, almost completely wiped out the once all-pervasive Palestinian presence, whose remnants were squeezed into the confines of the refugee camps. The Arafat fighters who have sneaked back to the camps in the south and around Beirut have found that the new Lebanon is far less hospitable. The disintegration of Lebanon into impenetrable sectarian mini-states, Syria's hegemony over the Beqaa and the north, Israel's control of a large buffer zone in the south, the unstoppable rise of an aggressive and firmly anti-Palestinian Shi'ite militia, and the general lack of sympathy among all Lebanese toward any return to

the pre-1982 chaos leave the Palestinians with very little room to manoeuvre. The war of the camps seems also to have increased Shi'ite antipathy to the point where an "exclusion zone" for Palestinians now extends to the limits of Sidon, 80 kilometres north of the Israeli border — far enough to prevent PLO fighters resuming guerrilla attacks on Israel or re-establishing military bases in the south.

... the Palestinian revival could still disrupt the fragile balance between the warring factions.

But despite the constraints of this hostile new environment, the Palestinian revival could still disrupt the fragile balance between the warring factions. The war of the camps could indirectly affect the future balance between Shi'ites and Sunnis, thereby influencing not only the future of Beirut and Sidon but the future political equilibrium of the whole country. This equilibrium has already been profoundly altered in the past few years by the fierce battles between the Maronites and Druze for the strategic mountain region, in which a series of Christian defeats resulted in the most far-reaching demographic changes in Lebanon's history.

As the largest and historically the most under-privileged community in Lebanon, the Shi'ites have long been looking for ways of achieving territorial and political gains. Their confidence greatly boosted by the Iranian revolution and by the strategic alliance between Tehran and Damascus, they have been in no mood for compromise. Initially, their aim was to gain the upper hand in a reconciled Lebanon. In line with this strategy, Shi'ite leaders such as the acting president of the higher Shi'ite council, Sheikh Mehdi Stams ad-Din, have insisted on a "numerical democracy" in which, as the largest community, the Shi'ites hoped to secure the central role that was once the privilege of the Maronites. Confined to the Syrian-controlled Beqaa and the

economically-marginal south, the Shi'ites could see no real advantage in jumping on the cantonisation bandwagon.

But Shi'ite ambitions for national prominence have been repeatedly frustrated by Lebanon's political stalemate and the apparently irreversible political disintegration of the country. Impatient to translate their newfound power and identity into lasting strategic gains, one of their major aims has become the total domination of the south, with the possible displacement of the remaining Christians towards the border zone and of the Palestinians south of Sidon northwards, resulting in their effective control of and gradual expansion into Sidon and Beirut. The conquest of Beirut represents not only the conquest of a symbol of wealth from which the Shi'ites have been excluded for decades, but also compensates for the political marginality of the Beqaa and the south, thus giving the Shi'ites powerful leverage on the national level. Inevitably, achieving this ambition involves a showdown with the increasingly rancorous Sunni opposition and the neutralisation of the (also predominantly Sunni) Palestinians, who have recently re-emerged as the only factor able to help the Sunnis contain the rise of Shi'ite power.

A major problem for the Sunnis is their failure to create a credible military machine, to match those of other factions. Despite their numbers (they are the second largest community in the country) and their concentration in the cities, the Sunnis have been chronically handicapped by their lack of martial traditions and of *assabiya* (sectarian solidarity) and by the erosion of their demographic dominance of the cities through large-scale, mainly Shi'ite, immigration from rural areas from the 1950s on. Consequently, the Sunnis were forced from the start of the civil war to rely directly or indirectly on Palestinian organisations. Most of the Sunni-dominated militias were directly supported with arms, money, recruitment, training, and command by Fatah and other Palestinian groups.

The Shi'ites fear that the steady build-up of Palestinian power within the camps will sooner or later gather enough momentum to expand outside them. In Sidon, the regional capital of the south, this has already happened, with the Palestinians now effectively in control of the whole city as well as Ain Al Hilweh camp. With the capture of Maghdousheh, the Palestinians even seriously threaten Shi'ite communications between the south and Beirut. In Beirut, the Shi'ites' main concern is that the

The re-emergence of Palestinian power has lent weight to the theory that a Palestinian-Sunni-Druze axis is developing.

consolidation of Palestinian positions in the three camps of Bourj Al Barajneh, Sabra and Chatila will enable them eventually to "recapture" the capital or at least to pose a serious challenge to Amal's domination, as well as encouraging Sunni resistance.

The re-emergence of Palestinian power has lent weight to the theory that a Palestinian-Sunni-Druze axis is developing. At this stage, however, such a rapprochement is still low-key, with the Sunnis and Druze anxious not to antagonise Syria. The Sunnis have become openly resentful of what they see as the provocative and intimidating domination of Amal and may have concluded that a resurgence of the Palestinians is the lesser of two evils. They may thus have been encouraging this comeback, with the approval of some Sunni Arab states. The Shi'ite Amal militia and its Syrian sponsors have long been apprehensive about such a development, and when the Sunni Murabitoun militia was liquidated by Amal with the support of Junblat fighters (a coup which enraged the spectrum of Sunni leaders), the main reason given to justify this act against an ally was that the Murabitoun had been helping Palestinians to infiltrate the capital.

The recent escalation in the "camps war" has given the Druze the tricky task of trying to reconcile heavy Syrian pressure to join the war against the camps with

their "special relationship" with the Palestinians, and with their long-term political interests. Under the leadership of Walid Junblat, they have so far succeeded in sticking to a relatively "neutral" course, while turning a blind eye to the Palestinian use of their territory to bombard Shi'ite positions. Under their late leader Kamal Junblat, the Druze developed a strong relationship with the Palestinians. This relationship was maintained by his son and successor Walid, and was recently strengthened when the Druze defied Syrian pressure to join the attacks on the camps, and also took it upon themselves to shelter and protect large numbers of Palestinians who had fled the camps and were seeking refuge from reprisals by Amal. In addition, it is known that the hundreds of PLO fighters who were dispatched by sea to reinforce Palestinian positions around Sidon landed on the Druze-controlled Chouf coastline.

A major reason for the stance of the Druze is the effective support they received from the Palestinians in their decisive war with the Maronites two years ago. In addition, hundreds of Palestinian fighters are helping to man the front-line at Suq Al Gharb and other hard pressed Christian positions in the mountains. In the face of mounting Syrian pressure, Junblat has repeatedly cited this as the main argument against Druze participation in the attacks on the camps. But with Amal fighters finding it increasingly difficult to score a decisive victory, Syrian patience with Junblat may be wearing thin. During a recent visit to Damascus the Druze leader was received by Syrian Chief of Staff General Hikmat Shehawi with the words "Hello, our strategic enemy," an ironic reference to Junblat's repeated assertion that "Syria is our strategic ally." In the face of Syrian annoyance, Junblat is giving Amal (another "strategic ally") noisy political support and trying to appease the Syrians with anti-Arafat rhetoric.

In Beirut, the Druze have already taken some quiet steps towards a rapprochement with the Sunnis. Junblat (himself a Sunni on his mother's side) has publicly apologised for his part in

the coup against the Murabitoun, and Druze support for the Palestinians has increased the attraction of Junblat's militia to Sunni youth. Hundreds of Sunni Kurds and Bedouins, as well as former members of the Murabitoun, have been signing up with the PSP militias.

Like many others in Lebanon, the Druze are increasingly worried about what they see as an aggressive Shi'ite drive to break

...the Druze defied Syrian pressure to join the attacks on the camps...

the traditional balance which has ensured the survival of all Lebanese minorities. The Sunnis and Maronites are also highly sensitive to any one party threatening "the equilibrium." The golden rule of Lebanese politics has been, and remains, that no community should be able to monopolise power or to dominate another. Historically the astute and efficient Maronites may have succeeded in asserting their hegemony over the others, but recent history has shown this to be no more than a temporary success. Ironically, sensing the same kind of danger that used to be felt by their rivals, the Maronites have themselves joined the effort to check the Shi'ite rise, to which end they have even provided political and material support for their long-sworn enemies, the Palestinians. In contrast, when the Shi'ite militia clashed with their Druze enemy, the Maronites were quick to lend support to the Shi'ites, although not enough to help them score a decisive victory.

For the outsider, the constant manoeuvring which characterises the Lebanese political game can be hard to fathom. Regional powers caught up in the Lebanese tangle, notably Syria and Israel, have found it an exhausting business trying to impose a lasting and manageable order. With the Palestinian resurgence now an important new factor in the Lebanese equation, a "manageable order" seems further away than ever.

Terrorism hits U.S. but very few seem to care

By Abdeen Jabara

THE word "terrorism" conjures up images of bloody incidents in foreign places. It often connotes persons of Arab descent. When terrorism strikes at home, claiming the life of an Arab-American, few seem to be aware, and few in high positions seem to care.

Arab-Americans care. In November, Arab-Americans in Detroit, Chicago, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Houston and Washington D.C., held memorial services for Alex Odeh, a Palestinian-American who was killed in October 1985.

Alex Odeh, who served as West Coast regional director of the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC), died in a terrorist incident on American soil. He was killed Oct. 11, 1985, as he came to work at ADC's Santa Ana office. A bomb trip-wired to his office door

shredded the lower half of his body and wounded seven passers-by in the street below. Now, one year later, the FBI, which initiated an investigation into the terrorist incident, has failed to solve the case. And one year later, Arab-Americans are still in the dark about who killed Alex.

The lack of progress in the FBI's probe has been felt so acutely by the Arab-American community that it has taken the step of posting a \$100,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for Alex's death. The ADC National Office announced the reward on the first anniversary of the murder.

The Reagan administration's and the media's indifference toward terrorism directed against

Americans of Arab descent was already clear a year ago. Three days before Alex's death, another American, Leon Klinghoffer, was killed in a terrorist incident aboard the hijacked cruise ship Achille Lauro. President Reagan dispatched American Navy jets to force down an Egyptian airliner and apprehended Klinghoffer's murderers. Mrs. Klinghoffer herself received a personal visit from President Reagan shortly thereafter. The only presidential attention received by Mrs. Odeh, the widow of the other victim of terrorism, was a form letter from Reagan thanking Alex for past campaign contributions and asking for more. Alex's murder took place under the cover of our government's and media's preoccupation with the Achille Lauro hijacking and has since become nothing more than a footnote to

it. Today, if you ask an American if they know of the Alex Odeh case, the response is: "Alex who?"

There is now a crisis of confidence among Arab-Americans who fear that our government, by reason of its "special relationship" with Israel, may not be able to solve the Alex Odeh case, especially when law-enforcement officials have indicated that Alex's killers may have fled the country undetected and sought refuge in Israel.

Earlier this year the Los Angeles field office of the U.S. Secret Service, which had monitored the FBI's probe into the murder, reported the Odeh case closed in Los Angeles "due to lack of investigative leads," according to a Secret Service memo which came to ADC's

attention under the Freedom of Information Act. That disclosure prompted a quick denial by FBI Executive Assistant Director Oliver Revell, who on July 16 told the House Subcommittee on Criminal Justice that the Secret Service memo was "probably" due to a "misunderstanding."

ADC was and is disposed to believe Revell, but other disturbing reports are grounds for grave concern. Revell confirmed there was a "foreign connection" in the case and that the country in question was Israel. Revell also said the FBI was seeking the help of the Israeli government. This is the same government which recently pardoned Abraham Shalom, the head of Shin Bet, Israel's own FBI, after he directed a cover-up of the murders of two

Palestinian prisoners taken into custody in April 1984.

Alex Odeh, poet, teacher and defender of human rights, was honoured twice this year with posthumous awards from the Orange County Human Relations Commission and the Los Angeles County Human Relations Commission. He has not been forgotten by his family, friends or community. But that is not enough. Alex felt passionately that if one American can be victimised for his beliefs, so can all. As long as his murder goes unpunished, we are all the victims of terrorism.

The writer is the president of the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee. His article is reprinted from The Orange County Register.

Politically muzzled, Indonesian students find religion

By Bill Tarrant

Reuter

BANDUNG, Indonesia — At noon on Fridays, the Institute of Technology at Bandung (ITB) is nearly deserted as students gather for the main extra-curricular activity on campus these days — praying and religious discussion.

The Muslim majority responds to a call to prayer at the bustling university mosque, while the tiny Christian community holds an evangelical service in a school building featuring folk guitar music, Bible reading and con-

versation.

ITB, whose most famous alumnus was Sukarno, Indonesia's first president, was once a hotbed of political activism. Now it seems like a mellow religious community with a social conscience.

The radical student movement in Indonesia ended abruptly after campus protests on the eve of the 1978 presidential election. Troops restored order, killing or wounding dozens of students and occupying the ITB for three months.

Afterwards, President Suhar-

to's government banned all meetings and discussion of sensitive political issues on campuses.

Today, as Indonesia prepares for parliamentary elections in April, the students are calm — cowed, say cynics.

Students still stage the occasional well-behaved protest. Some 300 marched last month to the transportation ministry to protest at bus and train fare rises. Fifty were detained and their parents were called to fetch them from the police station.

In September, ITB students gave visiting French President

Francois Mitterrand a boisterous welcome — then unfurled banners protesting against a 31 per cent devaluation of Indonesia's currency, the rupiah.

"They (the authorities) tried to find out who the leaders were," one student said of the brief but noisy protest. "But there weren't any leaders. That's why (protests) are always weak and disorganised."

Some students have vented gripes through anonymous leaflets or sent letters to Jakarta's media in support of an alleged fundamentalist Islamic movement in

the country.

In this town set on a high plateau ringed by strangely-shaped volcanoes, the Salman University mosque is the focus of ITB's Muslim community.

The mosque has a library, publishing house, canteen, health clinic, dormitory and activities centre. The mosque's mission, according to its newsletter, is to practise orthodox Islam and scientifically probe issues of economic and social justice.

Each week more than 125 "kharisma" study groups hold free-wheeling discussions on the

lawn outside the mosque. Many women wear the jilbab head-dress that marks them as strict followers of Islam.

But leaders of the country's 142 million Muslims, the largest Islamic community in the world, say Indonesia is a long way from a student-fostered fundamentalist revolution like that which consumed Iran in 1978.

But he added that "undemocratic methods and economic policies that widen the gap between rich and poor are helping to drive youth into so-called fundamentalism."

Zionists and Evangelists on the road to Armageddon

By Dr. A. Clare Brandabur

Prophecy and Politics: Militant Evangelists on the Road to Nuclear War by Grace Halsell. (Lawrence Hill & Company, Westport, Connecticut) 1986.

IN this book Grace Halsell documents the incongruous alliance between the Israeli right wing and American evangelical Christians. As in previous books, Ms. Halsell combines intensive research with an unusual and sometimes humorous "participatory observation." In *Journey to Jerusalem* she explored the rigors of life under military occupation by sharing with Palestinian students at Birzeit University an attack on their campus by the Israeli occupation forces and by spending time in refugee camps and Israeli settlements. In *Soul Sister* she recounted the experience of being treated like a black woman in Harlem and in Mississippi, having darkened her skin by the same dangerous chemical as that used by the late author of *Black Like Me*.

To gather first-hand information for the present book, Grace Halsell attended rallies of pro-Israeli Christian fundamentalists in the U.S. and took part in two Jerry Falwell tours of the Zionist state in 1983 and 1985, interviewing pilgrims from a wide variety of backgrounds in order to explore attitudes toward Zionism from an impressively kaleidoscopic vantage-point. The result is a highly readable and informative analysis of a growing constituency: The so-called "muscular" Christians who have joined Israeli Zionists in a new variant of idolatry in which biblical "Sion" has degenerated from a spiritual symbol into a piece of real estate for which one may legitimately rape, murder, and pillage.

According to their apocalyptic convictions, God blesses all who love Israel, there is no limit to the financial and military support which Israel deserves, and Israel provides the location for Armageddon — the final and inevitable nuclear holocaust which is required to precipitate the longed-for return of Jesus. Among the great values of this book is the wealth of detail concerning the identities and affiliations of sects and individuals in the fundamentalist camp, and their circles of influence in U.S. and Israeli officialdom. In this "who's who" of doomsday, we learn what TV evangelist President Reagan calls on to open a Republican convention or to conduct a prayer breakfast. What wealthy American has purchased a half-million dollar mansion across the street from the Israeli embassy in Washington, D.C., to create a chapel (bullet-proof and sound-proof) for 24-hour daily prayers by U.S. congressmen and other high officials for the express intention of begging the Almighty to hasten the total dispossession of Palestinians of their remaining land? Her belief is that all the land promised to the Jews in Genesis must be in Jewish possession before Jesus Christ can return in glory. In this mansion millions of dollars are collected and funneled to Gush Emunim settlers for illegal expropriation of land in the occupied Arab territories. We learn what TV preacher now flies his own private plane, a gift from Israel, and which evangelist was responsible for convincing anti-Israeli Jesse

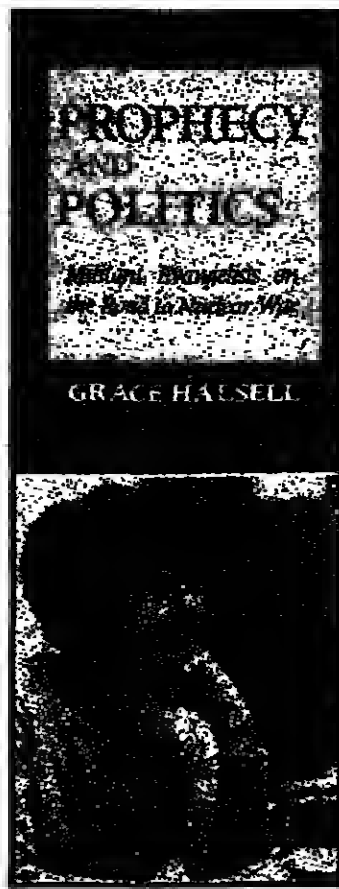
BOOK REVIEW

Helm that Israel was sufficiently fascist to merit his ardent support. In the process of delineating her central thesis — that these Christian Zionists regard Armageddon as inevitable and even desirable and are therefore pushing the world toward nuclear war — Ms. Halsell unravels many of the paradoxes intrinsic to her subject. For example, she explores the question of the strange alliance between American Jews (who were formerly associated with liberal and civil-rights causes) and right-wing reactionary Christians. Her answer: both groups, however divergent their views on other matters, share a personal commitment to Israel. The author is aware of the irony that (in the evangelical view) Jews will, in the Last Days, either be converted to Christ or killed, a consumption which one might think less than devoutly to be wished from a Jewish point of view. Perhaps equally puzzling for the uninitiated is the war-just of a religious group whose founder was dedicated to peace and love. The author was surprised and dismayed to find that the Falwell tours of the "Holy Land" completely bypassed the Arab residents, not only Muslims but also the Christians who live and have lived in Palestine since Biblical times, even avoiding religious sites such as Nazareth and Bethlehem. Religious services were conducted in Israeli hotels and featured speakers were high-ranking Israeli military and government officials who roused the pilgrims to spasms of ecstasy with their talk of war and of driving out the Arabs and confiscating more land. On one occasion the tour buses stopped at Nazareth near the Sea of Galilee where Jesus preached the Beatitudes at the very outset of his public

ministry: "Blessed are the peacemakers, etc." The stop was only to use toilet facilities.

Ms. Halsell provides a clear review of some of the primary historical forces which have led to this astonishing situation, and, though the book is not meant to appeal primarily to scholars and does not include a bibliography, one could construct from these pages a good list of introductory sources for further study. In addition to important books by Noam Chomsky and Paul Findley, the book discusses *The Fate of the Jews* by a religious American

Jew, Roberta Strass Feuerlicht, in which modern Israel is castigated for the same idolatry as its Old Testament forerunners — i.e. placing faith in militant kings rather than in the ethical tradition of the Hebrew prophets. The author also draws on the recent study of *Non-Jewish Zionism* by Regina Sharif of Kuwait University which traces with great erudition four centuries of Christian and secular Zionism in the West (often motivated by anti-Semitism) which culminated in the Balfour declaration and the founding of a racist and colonialist Zionist state.



Grace Halsell

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Israeli plans to destroy the Dome of the Rock and Al Aqsa Mosque and to rebuild Solomon's Temple on the site of the Haram Al Sharif have already been published by Israel Shahak, a professor at Hebrew University, and in an article by Ms. Halsell (*Shrine Under Siege*, published by The Link, Amen, Inc., Vol. 17, No. 3, August/September 1984). In the present book, the author recounts conversations with Israeli guides and evangelical pilgrims who assert that his plan is required by scriptural prophecy though they admit that the goal of restoring animal sacrifice in such a temple is "atavistic." Ms. Halsell's immediate concern with this plan is the probable effect it would have in precipitating World War III, a consequence accepted with amazing equanimity by her respondents. The two great mosques are among the most ancient and the most venerated shrines for Muslims worldwide, and constitute an irreplaceable architectural and cultural treasure for all human beings.

Yet Zionists of this fanatical persuasion speak casually of their destruction and the ensuing cataclysm as part of God's plan. Evangelical Christians in the U.S.

have contributed millions of dollars toward this plan, often in response to spurious claims that Christians are prevented by Muslim caretakers from worshipping at their Holy Land shrines.

Halsell points out that no evidence has been found to indicate that Solomon's Temple actually stood on the site of the great mosques, and even quotes Israeli scholars who believe they can prove that it must have been located elsewhere. Nevertheless the planning and excavations under the Haram Al Sharif continue apace.

At this time, when Washington, D.C. is digesting new revelations about U.S. aid to the contras and arms deals with Iran at a time when both were forbidden explicitly by U.S. foreign policy and congressional decree, it is sobering to realize the enormous forces which are propelling that country and the world toward nuclear war. Millions of Christians listen to dozens of TV evangelists who preach the need for more nuclear weapons and who disregard the mountainous national debt. In the light of the inevitability of apocalyptic nuclear confrontation with the Soviet Union, these people seem to believe that there is no point in worrying about a balanced budget. No one, in their view, will be around to demand its repayment, since Armageddon is almost upon us.

Grace Halsell's new book is frightening but essential reading for everyone concerned about the survival of humankind.

The writer is a Fulbright Professor at the Department of English at Al Ba'th University in Homs, Syria. She contributed this review to the Jordan Times.

Murdoch clears last hurdle for Australian media control

By Francis Daniel
Reuter

SYDNEY — Media magnate Rupert Murdoch on Feb. 9 cleared the last hurdle for taking over Australia's largest newspaper group when he sold two major television stations in Melbourne and Sydney.

The sale of the Channel 10 networks has, in effect, assured him of control of the Herald and Weekly Times (HWT) after a two-month battle against rival business interests, government bodies and political and journalist groups.

The HWT takeover will give Murdoch control of about 10 metropolitan newspapers in five state capitals with more than 50 per cent of newspaper circulation throughout Australia.

Murdoch's move through his News Corporation came during the final stages of an Australian Broadcasting Tribunal (ABT) hearing into his 2.3 billion dollar (1.5 billion U.S. dollar) takeover.

Under ABT rules, foreigners are not allowed to control broadcasting interests, although there are no such restrictions on the ownership of newspapers and other publications.

Murdoch, who was born in Australia, is now a U.S. citizen with vast interests in the United States and Britain.

He has effectively relinquished all broadcasting interests owned by HWT, triggering a far reaching shake-up in Australia's media industry.

His move also puts News Corporation out of reach of pending legislation which aims to restrict cross-ownership of newspaper and broadcasting interests in Australia.

The latest sale to a publicly-listed investment group, Westfield Capital Corporation (WCC), netted News Corporation 842 million dollars (564 million U.S.).

The Sydney-based John Fairfax

group earlier agreed to pay 320 million dollars (214 million U.S.) for HWT's other major broadcasting interests as well as dropping its rival bid for HWT and all legal action against Murdoch's takeover bid.

Market analysts said the effective price of HWT, after the sales and costs associated with the takeover, would be 1.5 billion dollars (one billion U.S. dollar).

They said Murdoch was expected to end up with substantial funds to reduce borrowings or to expand his newly-acquired Australian media empire.

Murdoch has more than a commercial interest in HWT. His father, Sir Keith Murdoch, headed the company until his death in 1952.

Murdoch told reporters that despite his sentimental attachment, his decision to takeover HWT was a hard-headed deal.

He travelled at least twice to Australia from New York to lead the see-saw battle against his arch-rivals, including multimillionaire Robert Holmes A Court.

HWT chairman John Dahlen told reporters: "This was a very complex takeover because of the structure of our companies, which created acute legal problems from time to time, the impact of the trade practices act and broadcasting and television act and the public concern about newspapers."

"It was more than a battle for control. It gets down to pretty raw attitudes and aspirations, and that makes it more interesting when it happens," he said.

Murdoch's bid was strongly resisted by the Australian Journalists Association (AJA) which claimed that it would place a great concentration of media power on one individual.

The AJA was supported by some community organisations and leading government and opposition politicians but Prime Minister Bob Hawke kept out of the battle.

Women rule in Spanish village — once a year

By Leslie Crawford
Reuter

ZAMARRAMALA, Spain — Kitchen sinks and nappies appear to be a woman's lot in this tiny hamlet of Zamarramala, women can be seen swigging wine and burning male effigies — but only once a year.

In a tradition dating back to the 15th century, the men of this hillside village overlooking Segovia solemnly hand over power to the married women of Zamarramala.

"For two days, we rule," an elderly woman said.

"I tremble like custard as their fiesta approaches," her husband replied, tongue-in-cheek.

During two days in February, the women elect two mayors and give orders to the priest and constable and dance in the village square. Men are chased with large cushion pins, called *mata-bombres* (men killers).

"Feminism suits little ice here," one of this year's mayors, Maria Ester Pablos, said. "The fiesta is a token show of gratitude for the work we do the remaining 363 days of the year."

Her traditional mayors' attire — a long, full skirt, a tight, embroidered corset and a lace veil topped by a sequined hat — did not suggest women's liberation.

But, feminists or not, the women are out to have a good time, bobbing and weaving through the narrow village streets to traditional music, knocking back carafes of wine in bars and eating spiced sausages.

Busloads of women from Madrid, 50 kilometres away to the south, pour into Zamarramala to join the fun.

The celebration begins on the feast day of a third-century martyr and patron of married women, Saint Agueda, whose breasts were cut off by her executioners.

Women carry a statue of Saint Agueda in a lively procession to the village church watched by their men, many of whom wear aprons to mark the occasion.

They then burn a life-size male effigy in the village square amid hoots of laughter and much applause.

At this year's festival last weekend the dummy was dubbed Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez, chastised for not including any women in his cabinet.

"The women of Zamarramala could teach him a thing or two," one woman said.

But do the women get a real break? Do the husbands do the cooking, for instance?

"You must be joking," a reveler said. "I leave everything done beforehand. My husband couldn't fry an egg to save his life."

Bangladeshis found to be Britain's most disadvantaged group

By Michael Wise
Reuter

LONDON — Bengali dialects mix with Cockney in London's Brick Lane, the main street running through an area which has become home to nearly half the rapidly growing Bangladeshi community in Britain.

This East End district, known as Tower Hamlets, has served as a base for recent immigrants for hundreds of years, beginning with the Huguenots who came from France in the 17th and 18th centuries and more recently Jews from Eastern Europe.

Shops selling Asian vegetables, rice and sweets now outnumber the vendors of bagels and pickled herring. A Huguenot church, built in Brick Lane in 1763 and later used as a synagogue, houses a mosque for the Islamic Bangladeshis.

While the Huguenots and Jews were able to thrive and gain foothold in British society, there

is rising concern about the obstacles facing the Bangladeshis, most of them illiterate farmers who began migrating here in the late 1950s to escape poverty in the Sylhet region of northern Bangladesh.

Bangladeshis are only one of a number of groups with Asian and Indian subcontinental origins living here, but a parliamentary report issued last month concluded they are Britain's most disadvantaged ethnic minority.

The all-party parliamentary home affairs committee found that they live in the worst and most overcrowded housing, suffer exceptionally high unemployment, receive low pay and are disproportionately affected by racial violence.

It said that a significant number of Bangladeshis had an alarmingly poor command of English — most communicate in their native Sylheti, a form of Bengali — and said there was considerable underachievement among their

children at school.

The Bangladeshi community has grown from 36,000 in 1979 to its current level of over 100,000. "They are the last of the immigrant community groups to come to the United Kingdom," said committee chairman John Wheeler.

Britain, which has greatly tightened its immigration laws in recent years, continues to allow entry by dependent spouses and children of Bangladeshi men who initially came here on their own.

The high birthrate among the recent immigrants — the committee said Bangladeshi women in Britain average eight children each compared to two among British overall — has resulted in an unusually young community. Just over half the British Bangladeshis are under the age of 15.

Racial discrimination has left them discouraged about their prospects. "It doesn't matter how well you speak English or how well educated you are," said

Ashfaq Kazi, a welfare worker with the Bangladeshi Youth Movement for Equal Rights.

"As long as you have brown skin you are not considered English."

The director of a local job training programme complains that prejudice makes it hard to place qualified Bangladeshis with employers in the nearby London financial district — "I tell an employer her name is Mrs. Aftab and that ends it right away."

A spate of brutal beatings of Asians in the East End during the past decade stirred Bangladeshi youths to form some 20 clubs.

within the drab public housing projects where most of them live.

"We don't walk around on our own," Aziz Miah, of the Federation of Bangladeshi Youth Organisations said. "We always go in groups and make sure the older people are not going to be attacked. We're not going to sit back and take it."

Conditions in the public housing projects are dismal. The report criticised the local council, which manages the projects, for giving Bangladeshis the least adequate accommodation of all.

"People back home think life in London is one big paradise,"

one Bangladeshi youth said. "They think all the houses are like Buckingham Palace but don't know people are living in damp houses with leaky roofs and small rooms."

Abdul Sattar, a 48-year-old textile machinist, lives in one of these damp houses, a council-owned four-room flat. The walls in two of the barely heated rooms are so covered with mould and streaming condensation that his family of eight crowd into the remaining two.

"Two of my children are suffering from asthma because of the damp," he said.

Scientists hope satellite provides clues on puzzling northern lights

By Birgit Lofgren
The Associated Press

STOCKHOLM — Researchers above the Arctic Circle say they hope Sweden's only satellite will teach them more about the northern lights, the heavenly phenomenon that has puzzled scientists for centuries.

The coloured lights, also known as aurora borealis, generally play within two oval-shaped belts above the North Pole.

The lights appear in a variety of shapes and colours. Like snowflakes, no two displays are ever quite the same. They can be calm or pulsate, colours glowing or fading.

Modern scientists explain the aurora as an interaction between the electromagnetic material around the sun and the earth's magnetic field.

"But the physical mechanism involved are not fully under-

stood, and here's where the Viking Project comes," said Ingrid Sandahl, a scientist at the Kiruna Geophysical Institute in Swedish Lapland.

Kerstin Fredga, scientific leader of the Viking Project, said the satellite photographs the northern lights in daylight, which was impossible before. It takes pictures from above at 20-second intervals.

Researchers monitor the satellite from the institute in Lapland, far from the light and air pollution that usually make the northern lights invisible to city dwellers further south.

Ms. Sandahl said chances of viewing the northern lights are best on windless winter nights in cold, clear weather.

Viking was launched last February from the Esrange space centre in northern Sweden. Designers expected it to operate for eight months.

But a year later, the satellite continues working and might do so for another couple of months, Ms. Fredga said.

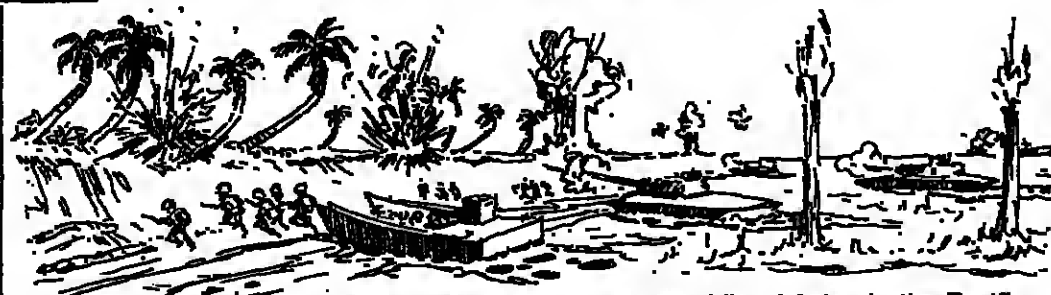
Viking operates on a 106 million kronor (\$16.3 million) budget. Contributions for the project also come from the United States, Canada, France, West Germany, England, Denmark and Norway.

The northern lights have been a mystery for thousands of years. They are depicted in carvings believed to date back to the stone age, and the Greek philosopher Aristotle also noted them.

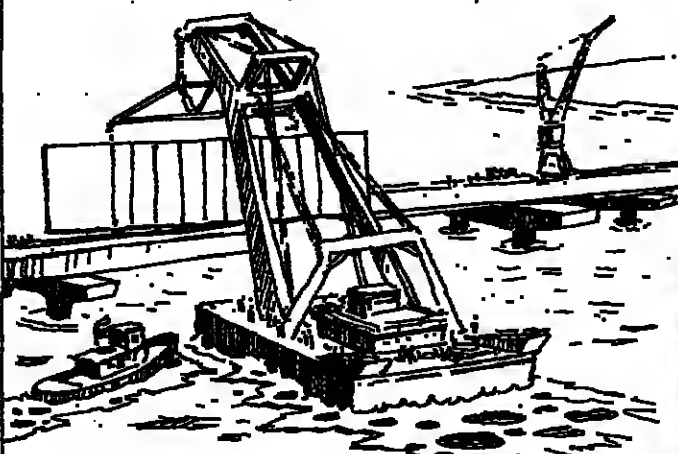
Primitive northern people believed the lights were the spirits of the dead either fighting or playing.

The aurora is described in old tales as being accompanied by various sounds — crackling, rustling or huzzing. But scientists say that is unlikely.

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC NEWS GRAPHIC



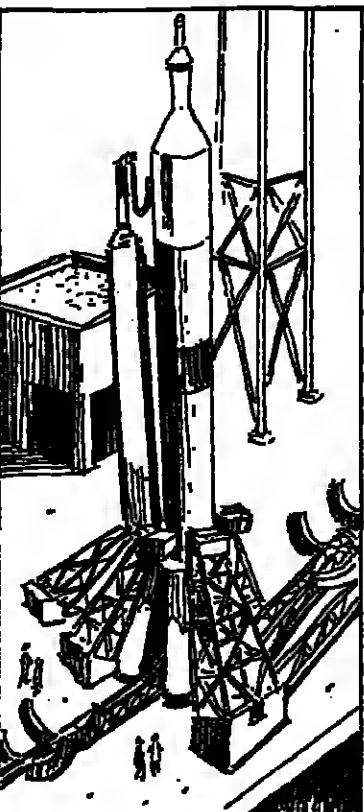
On **Peleliu**, an island in the Republic of Palau in the Pacific, more than 13,000 Americans and Japanese died in less than three months of fighting, often hand to hand, in the autumn of 1944.



The world's most complex public works scheme is the **Delta Project**, built to protect the Netherlands from North Sea storms.



During the past two centuries, man's indiscriminate hunting and destruction of habitat have exterminated the North American **wapiti** (elk) throughout 90 percent of its former range.



Soviet cosmonauts have logged more than twice the flight time of U.S. astronauts.

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Everton draws at Oxford as Liverpool closes on top

LONDON (R) — Everton clung on to the top spot in the English First Division after scrambling a late equaliser at Oxford's Manor Ground where its title ambitions were snuffed out last season.

A goal in the final seconds by Paul Wilkinson earned Everton a 1-1 draw Saturday and kept it a point clear of long-time leader Arsenal, also held 1-1 at Sheffield Wednesday.

The leading pair will be looking anxiously over their shoulders at champion Liverpool, who moved to within three points of Everton with a thrilling 4-3 win over Leicester.

Welsh international Ian Rush scored a hat-trick for Liverpool to take his tally for the season to 30.

With Nottingham Forest sharing the spoils at home to West Ham, Liverpool were the only side among the top four to win Saturday.

Everton laid siege to the Oxford goal after John Treweek's twice-taken penalty had given the

home side the lead in the 25th minute.

Everton protested that Pat Van Den Hauwe was fouled as David Langan escaped on the right and it was adamant that there was no foul by Gary Stevens on David Leworthy as they both went for — and missed — his cross.

Treweek drove the first penalty wide of goalkeeper Neville Southall's right hand but was ordered to retake it after referee John Martin spotted an infringement. Treweek repeated the shot for his first goal of the season.

Everton, beaten in the corresponding fixture last season — a match it had to deny neighbour Liverpool the title — had nothing to show for its pressure until Wilkinson popped up at the death to fire home from close range.

Arsenal, who was nudged off the top last Saturday, made the perfect start at Hillsborough when Niall Quinn scored in the ninth minute. But a defence which had conceded only 15 goals in 26 matches was eventually punctured in the 52nd minute by Mark Chamberlain.

Rush, as he often does, stole the limelight at Anfield — but only just from Leicester's highly rated striker Alan Smith. Smith scored twice to keep the result in doubt until the final whistle.

England midfielder Glenn Hoddle was the player to catch the eye at White Hart Lane where Tottenham stayed on the fringe of the title chase with a 2-0 home win over Southampton.

He set up both goals with perfectly flighted crosses into the box. The first, a ninth minute free-kick, was headed home by skipper Richard Gough and the second in the 62nd minute gave Steve Hodge the chance to score with a diving header.

Italy edges Portugal in Euro qualifier

LISBON, Portugal (AP) — A tough, running Italy triumphed Saturday over a less aggressive Portugal for a 1-0 win here in a Group 2 European Soccer Championship qualifying match.

The sole goal of the fast-moving encounter came at 40 minutes with a shot from the Italian's top scorer, Alessandro Altobelli of Inter Milan.

The result put the Italian national side closer to a finals berth in the 1988 finals, stretching its points lead in Group 2 to three, ahead of second-ranked Sweden.

The win was the fourth for Italy in four qualifying matches to date in the competition, following a 3-2 victory over Switzerland, and 5-0 and 0-2 wins over Malta.

For Portugal, the home loss left a growing sense of doubt it would have a chance to repeat its impressive fourth-place showing at the last European Championship

finals in 1984.

Saturday's loss was the team's first so far in qualifying rounds, but Portugal's two earlier outings in the competition also failed to produce a win. Visitor Sweden held the Portuguese squad to a 1-1 tally, the same result achieved in Berne, before Switzerland.

Following the match Saturday at National Stadium in suburban Val De Jamor, the Italians lead Group Two with 8 points, followed by Sweden's 5 points from two victories and a draw, while Portugal remains in third with its 2 points, ahead of Switzerland, with a single point, and Malta, with nil.

The match, a running contest from start to finish, saw repeated Portuguese attacks broken up by a solid Italian defence. Inter's Giuseppe Bergomi and Ricardo Ferri, along with Milan's Franco Baresi and Antonio Cabrini of

Juventus proved impenetrable, while keeper Walter Zenga of Inter stonewalled flawlessly.

A Portuguese defence of nearly equal efficacy, including Dito, Vpeloso and Alvaro of division-leading Benfica, as well as Eduardo Luis from champion Porto, failed only once — but once too often — by letting Altobelli slip past in a power rush by the Italians five minutes before half-time.

"I think we played well," a clearly dejected Veloso said after the final whistle, "the result looks a bit unfair to a lot of us, we got to the ball more often."

Said teammate Nascimento, a midfielder from Porto: "Look, we charged them in the second half, hard, but they charged right back — and they defended well."

"Luck just wasn't there with us today," he concluded.

Pakistan reeling on 3rd day of test with India

CALCUTTA, India (AP) — Pakistan, losing five wickets in the space of 29 runs, was reeling at 215 for seven at close of play Saturday, the third day of the second cricket test with India.

The 70,000 spectators at Calcutta's Eden Gardens, bored by the dull play during much of the day, had an exciting time after tea when wickets fell in rapid succession.

The Indians earlier made 403 in their first innings. Medium pacer Roger Binny, turned the tide in India's favour after the second new ball was claimed by skipper Kapil Dev. Binny, taking four quick wickets, suddenly enlivened the proceed-

ings. Dev, India's leading paceman, bowled Rizwan-Uz-Zaman lock-stock-and-barrel after Binny had got rid of star batsman Javed Miandad and Salim Malik. Zaman made 60.

Opener Rameez Raja earlier fell to left-arm spinner Ravi Shastri. He prodded a turning ball and ballooned a simple bat-and-pad catch to forward short-leg.

Pakistani captain Imran Khan, hit by a rising Dev delivery, did not stay long at the wicket. He edged Binny and Dev, at second slip, took the catch. At stumps, Safim Yousuf was batting with 21 and Abdul Qadir with two.

Bassa upsets Zapata to win WBA title

BARRANQUILLA, Colombia (R) — Fidel Bassa of Colombia upset Hilario Zapata of Panama Friday night to win the World Boxing Association (WBA) flyweight championship on a unanimous points decision.

Bassa, 24, the underdog entering the fight, stalked the 2-1 on favourite from the start, cramping Zapata's style.

Bassa opened a cut over the 28-year-old Zapata's left eye in the third round with a solid right hand, forcing Zapata to cover up. Then in the eighth round Bassa dropped Zapata with a series of combination punches.

Boston defeats Portland

NEW YORK (AP) — The Boston Celtics are again looking like NBA champions, and it's Kevin McHale, not Larry Bird, who is sparking them.

"There's no question he's probably the best scorer in the league right now. He's just unstoppable down low," Bird said after McHale got 37 points and led Boston past the Portland Trail Blazers 131-116 Friday night.

The Celtics, tied with the Los Angeles Lakers for the best record in the NBA at 37-12, scored eight straight points in the third quarter to take control at 91-79. Boston went on to increase its lead to 21 points.

The Celtics are now 3-0 on an eight-game road trip that has lasted four days so far. Elsewhere, it was Chicago 106, Seattle 98; Phoenix 105, Utah 98; the Los Angeles Lakers 113, Indiana 108; the Los Angeles Clippers 110, San Antonio 96.

Bulls 106, Supersonics 98. Michael Jordan, the NBA's leading scorer, scored 45 points and combined with Mike Brown to lead a 16-0 Chicago surge in the fourth quarter that led the

Salonen takes lead in Swedish rally

KARLSTAD, Sweden (R) — Former world champion Timo Salonen of Finland and his four-wheel drive turbocharged Mazda 323 surged into the lead at the Swedish Motor Rally Saturday.

Salonen, who began the day in third place behind leader Mikael Eriksson in a Lancia, won three successive stages before the mid-morning break, to overtake the Swede and claim a lead of 11 seconds with the final seven stages remaining.

After winning the 15th and 16th stages to edge close to the lead, Salonen won the 30-kilometre, 17th stage and beat Eriksson by 37 seconds in the process to seize the advantage.

Salonen, the 1985 world champion, had a total time of three hours and 24 seconds over 19 stages. Eriksson was second and Ingvar Carlsson of Sweden was third in another Mazda 25 seconds behind the Finn.

Sweden's former world champion Stig Blomqvist, fourth overnight, dropped to sixth place.

Minister denies new law will dissolve sports bodies

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Youth Eid Dahiyat said that there was no intention to dissolve any local sports federation as a result of a new youth law passed by parliament last month and endorsed by a royal decree two weeks ago. The minister was replying to questions by the Jordan Times and the Arabic Al Ra'i newspapers regarding the possible effects of the new law.

Among the twelve articles of the new law, article eleven calls for the dissolving of the Youth Welfare Organisation, an independent body founded by 1967. The law also provides for the appointing of a general secretary within the Ministry of Youth.

Other provisions of the law provide for the establishment of new sports centres and of a youth scout association to coordinate the work of the boy and girl scout groups. As a result of the new law, all sports activities will be handled by the Ministry of Youth.

Dr. Dahiyat also expressed his



Minister of Youth Eid Dahiyat satisfaction with the achievements made by the local sports federations in a relatively short period of time. With regard to the national football team, he said that he would work to remove obstacles to the training of the players. Now, players must work full time in addition to training for the national team.

Connors downs Curren to advance in U.S. indoor

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — Jimmy Connors neutralised the power of Kevin Curren with a scrambling net game to post a 6-4, 3-6, 6-3 victory and advance to the semifinals of the U.S. Indoor Tennis Championship.

Connors, seeking his eighth U.S. indoor title, meets Mikael Pernfors of Sweden in the semifinal round.

Pernfors rallied in the third set to defeat Greg Holmes 6-4, 3-6, 6-3 in Friday's opening match. Defending tournament champion Brad Gilbert, the no. 4 seed, defeated Johan Kriek in straight

sets, 6-2, 7-6 (7-5) and will meet top-seeded Stefan Edberg, who eliminated the seventh seed, Tim Mayotte, 6-3, 6-4.

Curren served 15 aces on the racket club of Memphis' hard-court surface to Connors' two, but fell victim to an assortment of "drop shots and well-placed passing shots by the 34-year-old Connors, seeded second here and ranked eighth in the world.

Pernfors, ranked 14th, appeared in total control in the first set of his match with Holmes, ranked 84th.

Jahren wins Nordic race despite car accident

OBERSTDORF, West Germany (AP) — Anne Jahren of Norway overcame a bout of fatigue to make a final burst and win the gold medal in the women's 10-kilometre cross-country race at the Nordic Ski World Championships Friday.

Jahren edged Finland's Marjo Matikainen for the gold medal by less than a second. Jahren's time was 31:11 minutes, 49.5 seconds. Matikainen clocked 31:50.3 to take the silver.

Britt Petersen gave Norway its second medal in the women's opening event by taking the bronze in 32:09.2.

In the opening portion of the Nordic combined event, the 70-metre ski jumping competition, Hans-Peter Pohl of West Germany took the lead with 224.9 points. East Germany's Thomas Prenzel was second with 218.4 and Hubert Schwarz of West Germany was third with 215.8.

Defending champion Hermann Weinbuch of West Germany was fourth, with 215.6, but is expected to do well in Saturday's final portion, the 15-kilometre cross-country race.

In the women's 10-km event, Matikainen had posted her time starting fifth. Since Jahren began 36th, more than 15 minutes later, the Norwegian knew the time she had to beat.

But the last stretch was a blur for the 23-year-old from Baerum. "All I could think in the last metres was get to the finish line as fast as I can," Jahren said. "I was never more tired but never so happy after a race."

Three months ago, Jahren was injured in a car accident with a teammate, Nina Skeime, who finished sixth Thursday.

"Last November, we were coming back from training and Nina was driving. We had an accident and the car was destroyed. I had had headaches and had to miss about two weeks of training," Jahren said. She said she was fully recovered from the accident.

Mandlikova advances in California

SAN FRANCISCO (R) — Hana Mandlikova of Czechoslovakia, seeded first, and Zina Garrison of the United States, seeded third, will meet in the semifinals of the \$150,000 California women's tennis tournament.

Mandlikova beat fifth seeded Manuela Maleeva of Bulgaria, 6-3, 7-6 (9-7) Friday night to reach the semifinals. Garrison defeated unseeded American Wendy White and will face Mandlikova for the 11th time in their careers. Mandlikova has an 8-3 winning edge.

In an earlier match, American Kathy Rinaldi, seeded second, advanced to the semi-finals with a 1-6, 6-4, 6-4 victory over fellow American Stephanie Rehe, seeded eighth.

Rinaldi will face unseeded West German Sylvia Hanika who defeated six seeded Wendy Turnbull of Australia, 6-4, 6-1.

Mandlikova's victory came despite an erratic first serve, which often deserted her. Only four of the first 15 games went on serve, but both players used solid ground strokes and their speed around the court to keep the

Canada's Johnson sprints to near record time

HAMILTON, Ontario (AP) — Toronto's Ben Johnson eased up to capture the 50-metre sprint and come within 10-100ths of a second of his world record at the Hamilton Spectator Indoor Games.

Johnson said he took it easy over the last 10 metres because of a leg cramp as he coasted to a 5.65-second clocking.

But he was running hard after the race as youngsters in the crowd of 10,397 poured onto the infield to mob Canada's top track star.

"I was a little concerned I might get pushed and twist an ankle," Johnson said.

The race Friday night lost a bit of luster when Chidi Inok, ranked second in the world, failed to appear. The Nigerian missed a fight in Chicago and along with it the chance to face Johnson.

The meet featured a number of familiar faces returning to the winner's circle besides Johnson. Charlene Crooks became the first two-time winner in Hamilton when she captured the 500 metres by a stride over Esmie Lawrence of Calgary, Alberta, in 1:13.56.

Crooks, of Toronto, won the 600 metres in 1986.

Debbie Brill of Vancouver, British Columbia, was another repeater when she won the high jump with a leap of 6 feet, 1 1/4 inches.

Brill's victory was followed by Simon Hoogewerf's second consecutive win in the men's 1,000 metres. The British Columbia native covered the distance in 2:28.06.

A pair of winning distance runners in last year's meet just failed to defend their titles. Greater Britain's Kristy Wade passed Marica Puica of Romania in the final lap to capture the women's 1,500 metres in 4:15.70.

The men's 3,000 metres was closer as Graeme Fell of Vancouver came up just two-one hundredths of a second short, losing to Ritchie Harris of New York.

Kip Cheryot of Kenya defended his mile victory of a year ago with a relatively easy race in 4:03.19.

In the 50-metre hurdles, Mark McCoy of Toronto avenged the disappointment of a year ago, when he stumbled, as he topped the field with a time of 6.43 seconds.

And Angela Taylor-Issajenko, of Mississauga, Ontario, again took the women's 50-metres with a time of 6.16 seconds.

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On all Lacoste winter clothes N.B. We are closed on Fridays
SUBAH FOR GARMENTS
8th Circle - Bayader Wadi El-Seer Near Abu-Shakra Co.

CAR FOR SALE
Mazda 929 limit, 1986, airconditioned with central lock, power steering and sun roof. Silver metallic, 3,000 kms. Customs duty NOT paid.
Please call: 819495

FOLLOWING REQUIRED FOR FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT
1 Administrator/Accountant
Applicants should speak and write English and Arabic.
1 Administrative Assistant with valid driving licence.
Applicants should speak Arabic and English.
Interested persons send C.V. to P.O. Box 3283 Amman, Jordan for an interview.

VILLA FOR RENT at Um Uthaina
Consists of three bedrooms, one of which is master bedroom, three bathrooms, spacious kitchen, servant's room, salon, dining and sitting room with three verandas, central heating, garage and garden.
Call: 816460

FOR RENT FURNISHED FLAT NEAR 5TH CIRCLE
2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, sitting room, dining room & kitchen with American appliances (fridge, cooker & washing machines). Fully carpeted, centrally heated. Own telephone, garden, garage & entrance.
Call: 673166

HOUSE FOR RENT
A fully-furnished house, 3 bedrooms, dining, sitting room, large garden. CH and telephone at Marj Al Hamam.
Pls call 892435, 8 a.m. - 1600 hrs 892640, 1600 - 2000 hrs.

FURNISHED OR UNFURNISHED APARTMENT FOR RENT
Second floor of a 2-storey house. Three bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, large living and dining rooms, and balcony. Located between 7th Circle and Mecca Street.
For more information please call: 819372

FOR RENT Furnished flat at 5th Circle, Jabal Amman
Consisting of two bedrooms with central heating and telephone.
For only JD 200 monthly For more details please call, 676209

APARTMENTS FOR RENT
1- Furnished - roof consisting of one bedroom, lounge, kitchen, bathroom with large terrace and central heating.
2- Unfurnished apartment consisting of three large bedrooms, bathrooms, lounge, large glassed-in-veranda, large kitchen with central heating and telephone.
The apartment is on the third floor and has an area of 210 sq.m. Annual rent JD 1,900.
Location: Jabal Amman - 4th Circle - opposite Al Zayyah supermarket.
Call: 655403/673925, Amman

Cinema **CONCORD** Tel: 677420
LEGAL EAGLES
Performances 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema **RAINBOW** Tel: 625153
BREWSTERS MILLIONS
Performances 3:15, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema **OPERA** Tel: 675573
DOWN AND OUT IN BEVERLY HILLS
Performances 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema **PLAZA** Tel: 677420
CALL ME TRINITY
Performances 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema **RAGHADAN** Tel: 622198
THE SUPER NINJA
Performances 12:15, 3:00, 5:00, 9:45

Reuters posts big gains

LONDON (AP) — Reuters Holdings Plc said Thursday its after-tax profit soared 47 per cent because of a big jump in new orders, favourable foreign exchange rates and a lower tax rate.

The international news agency and financial information company said its after-tax profit for the 12 months ended Dec. 31 came to £80.7 million (£119.4 million) compared with £54.9 million (£81.3 million) in the same period a year earlier.

Per-share profit came to 19.4 pence (28.7 cents), compared with 13.2 pence (19.5 U.S. cents) a year earlier.

Pre-tax profit increased 39 per cent to £130.1 million (£192.5 million) from £93.6 million (£138.6 million), the company said.

Twelve-month revenue increased 43 per cent to £620.9 million (£918.9 million) vs. £434.1 million (£642.5 million).

Mr. Glen Renfrew, Reuters' managing director and chief executive, said the company's growth was spurred by sharply higher new orders and helped in the second half of the year by exchange rate movements.

The company also said its average tax rate fell to 38 per cent from 41.3 per cent.

Reuters speeded up development of new products and brought forward a timetable for expanding field service and sales in North America, Mr. Renfrew said.

Europe produced over half of the company's revenue growth,

he added.

Revenue in North America rose 60 per cent to \$190.1 million, the company said.

Asia also performed very well, led by Japan, Mr. Renfrew said. However, depressed oil prices, war and unrest continued to plague Reuters' Middle East operations, he said.

The company spent £72.5 million (£107.3 million) in cash and Reuters shares on acquisitions in 1986, which included the acquisition of 49 per cent of Instinet Corp. in cash. Reuters plans to swap its stock for the remaining 51 per cent of Instinet shares in May.

Instinet, an American company, has developed an electronic share dealing system.

Mr. Renfrew also announced that Reuters plans to launch a new global stock quotes service called Equities 2,000 in the spring.

The service will provide prices on 100,000 equities, futures and commodities, Mr. Renfrew said.

The company said it derived 56 per cent of its revenue from the sale of money market and foreign exchange information, 12 per cent from securities information, and 10 per cent from commodities information. It got nine per cent of its revenue from media services and 13 per cent from client systems, such as software and hardware for dealing rooms.

The company converted its results to dollars at a rate of \$1.48 per pound, which was the rate at noon on Dec. 31.

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

AMMAN (J.T.) — The following table summarises trading activities at the Amman Financial Market during the week starting Saturday, Feb. 7, '87 and ending Wednesday, Feb. 11, '87. (Figures in Jordanian dinars).

Name of company	Number of shares	Volume of trade	Opening price	Closing price	Par value
Banking and financial institutions					
Industrial Development Bank	—	—	—	—	1,000
Petra Bank	20600	47396	2,120	2,250	1,000
Jordan Islamic Bank	2383	4948	2,110	2,070	1,000
Jordan Kuwait Bank	12938	21394	1,670	1,660	1,000
Jordan Gulf Bank	3600	4521	1,250	1,270	1,000
Housing Bank	3858	5903	1,520	1,530	1,000
Arab Jordan Investment Bank	—	—	—	—	1,000
Cairo Amman Bank	940	28184	28,000	30,250	5,000
Bank of Jordan	24505	41413	16,300	17,800	5,000
Arab Bank	1060	133365	127,000	125,750	10,000
Jordan National Bank	23545	57266	2,450	2,470	1,000
Arab Finance House for Development	26082	17716	0,660	0,670	1,000
Islamic Investment House	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Investment and Finance Corporation	14226	13127	1,420	1,430	1,000
Finance and Credit Corporation	49173	11295	0,730	0,730	1,000
National Financial Investments	7460	10552	1,380	1,380	1,000
National Portfolio Securities	3077	1825	0,600	0,590	1,000
Jordan Securities Corporation	3864	3593	0,920	0,930	1,000
Arab Finance Corporation (Jordan)	—	—	—	—	1,000
Real Estate Financing Corporation	—	—	—	—	2,000
Al Masek Exchange	—	—	—	—	10,000
Insurance and reinsurance					
Jordan French Insurance	7105	22008	2,930	3,500	1,000
REPCO Life Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Insurance	653	7183	11,000	11,000	1,000
Jordan Life and Accident Insurance	2950	2478	0,920	0,840	1,000
Yarmouk Insurance and Reinsurance	6400	6561	1,000	1,070	1,000
Holy Land Insurance	6300	6426	1,020	1,020	1,000
Arabian Seas Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Philadelphia Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab Union International Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jerusalem Insurance	2300	2908	1,260	1,280	1,000
Petra Jordan Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Gulf Insurance	19200	15064	0,790	0,790	1,000
General Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Eagle Insurance	—	—	—	—	10,000
Middle East Insurance	—	—	—	—	10,000
Al-Izhar Insurance	600	570	0,950	0,950	1,000
National Abhiya Insurance	4615	6599	1,500	1,430	1,000
Services and industries					
Darco for Housing and Investment	51666	33035	0,630	0,640	1,000
Real Estate Investment (Aqaro)	5500	2710	0,450	0,500	1,000
Management and Consultancy	—	—	—	—	1,000
General Investment	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Leasing Corporation	636	422	0,650	0,670	1,000
Petra Enterprises and Leasing Equipments	7200	1224	0,670	0,670	1,000
Equipment Leasing & Maintenance/Tajeroo	30785	13906	0,950	0,960	1,000
Jordanian Electric Power	23210	33839	1,460	1,460	1,000
Irbid District Electricity	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab International Hotels	42300	17343	0,410	0,410	1,000
Hotels and Tourism	—	—	—	—	1,000
Garage Owners Federation Office	300	1275	4,500	4,250	1,000
Jordan National Shipping Lines	7450	6556	0,870	0,880	1,000
Dar Al Shab Press, Printing and Publishing	55801	19210	0,330	0,370	1,000
Jordan Dairy	42422	50537	1,150	1,210	1,000
Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing	15961	33662	2,080	2,120	1,000
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries	388890	328966	0,820	0,840	1,000
Jordan Phosphate Mines	9532	22783	2,400	2,390	1,000
Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural (Inta)	3284	4615	1,400	1,410	1,000
Arab Chemical Detergent Industries	1200	6474	4,580	4,550	1,000
Aladdin Industries	59659	56459	0,920	0,950	1,000
Arab Aluminium Manufacturing	353705	529181	1,450	1,510	1,000
Jordan Worsteds Mills	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Ceramics	9180	8900	0,950	0,980	1,000
Chemical Industries	19100	19353	1,020	1,040	1,000
Jordan Industries and Match (JIMCO)	2050	955	0,440	0,470	1,000
Dar Al Dawa' for Development and Investment	2992	4059	1,350	1,360	1,000
National Steel Industries	99937	193538	1,930	1,960	1,000
Universal Chemical Industries	7900	6597	0,780	0,860	1,000
General Mining	800	1345	1,700	1,650	1,000
Jordan Petroleum Refinery	12483	91396	6,770	6,800	5,000
Jordan Lime & Brick	50014	11173	0,210	0,240	1,000
National Industries	1080	727	0,650	0,670	1,000
Arab Paper Converting and Trading	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Wooden Industries (JWICO)	—	—	—	—	1,000
Livestock and Poultry	350	252	0,720	0,720	1,000
Jordan Pipes Manufacturing	21260	25747	1,210	1,200	1,000
Rafia Industrial for Plastic Bags	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Paper and Carboard	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Rockwood Industries	19000	7960	0,400	0,420	1,000
Trans-Jordan Minerals Research	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Himeh Mineral	—	—	—	—	1,000
Orient Dry Batteries Factory	—	—	—	—	1,000
Woolen Industries	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Tanning	50	81	1,620	1,620	1,000
Jordan Printing and Packaging	331	861	2,600	2,600	1,000
Jordan Tobacco and Cigarette	—	—	—	—	5,000
Jordan Brewery	—	—	—	—	1,000
Mas Industries	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab Center for Pharmaceuticals & Chemicals	—	—	—	—	1,000
National Cable & Wire Manufacturing	113446	112063	1,040	0,950	1,000
Jordan Spinning & Weaving	3050	1739	0,570	0,570	1,000
Jordan Industrial Investment Corporation	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Sulpho Chemicals	441558	730038	1,960	1,980	1,000
Jordan Cement Factories	660299	750815	0,920	1,200	1,000
Grand total	2,812,856	3,969,977			

Gemayel asks EC to lead Lebanon reconstruction plan Lira continues to decline sharply

BRUSSELS, Belgium (Agencies) — Lebanese President Amin Gemayel called on the 12 European Community (EC) nations Friday to take the lead in a "global reconstruction" of his war-torn country.

President Gemayel told reporters after meeting with senior executives at the EC's administrative commission that the economic and social situation in Lebanon after nearly 12 years of civil war "has never been so grave."

"It's no longer the infrastructure, the streets and buildings, that people want to destroy in Lebanon," he said. "It's much more serious. It's man himself... in his spiritual and universal dimension that is in danger."

President Gemayel said he asked the EC about "the possibility to take the leadership of a global economic reconstruction plan" for his country.

After reading a brief statement to reporters in a tightly guarded room on the top floor of the EC commission's headquarters complex, President Gemayel declined to answer reporters' questions.

He said the seriousness of his country's troubles required that he not make unprepared remarks.

Although he provided no details, President Gemayel said he asked the EC for urgent medical and pharmaceutical assistance in addition to the longer-range reconstruction aid.

An EC official, speaking on condition he not be identified, said the EC had made no commitments to President Gemayel except to consider all Lebanese requests for help.

Earlier, the EC commission announced it was giving 500,000 European Currency Units (about \$565 million) in the first phase of new emergency aid for people in the besieged Beirut refugee camps and other victims of the war. Another 500,000 European

Currency Units has been pledged but arrangements for distribution of the aid have not been settled.

The EC official said President Gemayel was told his request for immediate pharmaceutical and medical assistance would be considered but that any "global" plan for the reconstruction of Lebanon would have to come from the Beirut government itself, not the Europeans.

EC foreign ministers are to discuss the preparation of a new financial assistance programme for Lebanon and other Mediterranean nations on Monday. The ministers are to hold a special meeting on Feb. 23 to discuss the Middle Eastern political situation, including the Lebanese crisis.

President Gemayel dined Friday evening with Mr. Jacques Delors, president of the EC commission, then left for London Saturday for talks with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and Foreign Secretary Geoffrey Howe.

On the last leg of his European tour President Gemayel will travel to Paris on Tuesday to see French leaders.

President Gemayel, who was also received Friday by Belgium's King Baudouin and met with Belgian government leaders, was given a first urgent aid of five million francs (\$135,000) in food and medicine, a Belgian foreign ministry spokesman said.

He had asked for certain specific drugs for heart and kidney patients, which are urgently needed in Lebanon. He also asked for more aid on a longer term, namely for the reconstruction of Lebanon, technical assistance and scholarships.

New scandal dismays Wall Street

NEW YORK (AP) — Wall Street traders and brokers expressed dismay Friday at the news that four more prominent figures in their business had been implicated in a widening insider-trading scandal.

But they also spoke hopefully of the possibility that, in time, vigorous enforcement of the rules might work to enhance the public image of the stock market.

"I'm disgusted, in the sense that we feel as though we have been violated by our colleagues," said Mr. William Lefevre, a market analyst at Advest Inc. who began his career on the street in the 1950s.

"But I'm cheered by the effectiveness with which this is being policed. When I started out in this business, there was a high standard of integrity. It could be that this will bring a return to that standard."

Mr. Martin Siegel, an executive at Drexel Burnham Lambert

Inc., pleaded guilty Friday to conspiracy and tax-evasion charges relating to dealings alleged to have occurred while he was head of mergers and acquisitions at another firm, Kidder, Peabody and Co.

The day before, the U.S. government brought charges against Mr. Richard Wington of Kidder Peabody, Mr. Timothy Tabor, formerly with Kidder Peabody, and Mr. Robert Freeman, a partner at Goldman, Sachs and Co.

All four names are well known in the securities business. The image of Mr. Wington being taken from Kidder's offices in handcuffs Thursday was the talk of the street.

In another sense, however, the developments were not a surprise. The investment world had been braced for further accusations since November, when Mr. Ivan Boesky, known as the "king of the arbitrageurs," agreed to pay \$100 million in penalties to settle

charges brought against him by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, a regulatory agency.

The investigation is presumed to be far from over. "It's probably just one of many more shoes to drop," said Mr. Raymond Devoc of the investment firm Legg Mason Wood Walker Inc.

Still, Wall Streeters say the latest charges add a new and troubling element to the case. The government alleges that some of the defendants used inside information illegally to trade not for their own gain, but rather for the account of Kidder Peabody.

The presumed motive of such activity would be to enhance their standing in the firm and increase the pay they received as a reward for profits realized.

Kidder, which traces its history back more than 120 years, has a reputation for scrupulous integrity.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, FEB. 15, 1987

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A day to avoid any drastic remarks or negative actions toward others. It could get you into considerable trouble. Tonight you find positive influences.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) You find it difficult to make arrangements with others, but patience makes the evening very pleasant.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Be meticulous in carrying through with promises you have made instead of trying to sneak out of them.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Don't feel frustrated in handling daily routines. Tonight try enjoying your favorite sport.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) A day to steer clear of luxuries. Be kind to your mate who has a problem you don't understand.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Forget your own desires for the time being and see what you can do to help your family.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Be more alert to the driving of others and yourself. The evening should be spent making important calls.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Don't dwell on your monetary problems today. You can use that special data most advantageously tonight.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Try not to be forceful in gaining your wishes or you can lose much of the progress you have already made.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You feel you have more anxieties than most, but take it easy and they soon vanish.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) You want to berate a friend for something that has disturbed you, but you may be wrong, so be quiet.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) It's not a good day to be in the public limelight. Unfavorable conditions could cause you to lose prestige.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You are interested in many new outlets, but study them well before getting into them.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be good looking and magnetic but could have fixed ideas and would stop at nothing to gain his, or her, own way, whether it's good or bad. Give a fine education that can bring good judgment and will teach this one to follow the right paths in life.

THE Daily Crossword by S. and P. Floeck

ACROSS

- 1 Contort
- 5 Victim of Hansen's disease
- 10 Roman date
- 14 Monique cleric
- 15 "— Ben Johnson"
- 16 Hub
- 17 Displacement garment
- 18 Coconut fiber
- 19 Spotty TV
- 20 Frost poem
- 21 — Johnson, comic
- 24 Sledging
- 25 Long seat
- 26 Hides
- 32 Sausages
- 33 Wheel part
- 34 A Gershwin
- 35 Driving force
- 36 Old-time pope
- 37 Early deposit
- 38 Verse dir.
- 39 Marriage proclamation
- 40 Biblical word
- 41 Certain blocks
- 43 Portage
- 47 Polesine
- 48 Resounding grain
- 49 Saller
- 45 Sella
- 46 Sella
- 53 Century plant
- 54 Wickmark
- 55 Work on copy
- 56 Fock of films
- 57 Agave
- 60 Long-haired dog
- 61 Cello
- 62 Swamp
- 63 Intestines
- 64 Redon

DOWN

- 1 Obscured hand
- 2 Original name
- 3 Concern
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Yesterday's Puzzle Solver:

ACROSS

- 1 BARK
- 2 PEAT
- 3 KIAN
- 4 LUNG
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China promises political reforms but reaffirms stand against capitalism

PEKING (R) — China on Saturday promised to reform its political structure and continue with economic reforms, but warned a return to capitalism would only bring back feudalism.

The Communist Party's "Red Flag" journal, quoted by the official New China News Agency, said China must stick to socialism although it was still imperfect.

The journal also attacked three top intellectuals expelled from the party this year during a campaign against pro-Western ideas. It said the three negated China's achievements and claimed socialism was a failure in the country.

"To adhere to the socialist road, it is imperative to continue the policies of opening to the rest of the world and reform. China even plans to open wider to the outside world and reform of the urban economic structure will also be resolutely carried out," the journal said.

"The reform of political structure now under investigation and study will also be carried out," it added, but gave no details.

Acting party chief Zhao Ziyang has said procedures for county elections, the lowest level in the political hierarchy, will be improved.

Mr. Zhao succeeded Hu Yaobang, who was sacked last

month for "political errors" linked to nationwide protests in December by students calling for more democracy and freedom.

The sacking of Mr. Hu and the three intellectuals was part of a current campaign against "bourgeois liberalism" which officials blamed for the student unrest.

The journal said socialism faced a protracted and complicated struggle when it was introduced in China but the system could be gradually perfected by reforming various systems and raising the quality of people.

It said the party's central committee was conducting various reforms "which will show the superiority of socialism and narrow the gap between China and developed countries."

Quoting figures of higher agricultural output and increased production of raw materials and industrial products, it said China's growth rate cannot be called slow even when compared with developed capitalist countries.

"Capitalism does not work in

China," it stressed. "Current domestic and international conditions also prevent China from becoming an independent capitalist country. If China should choose to follow capitalism, it would return to the semi-feudal, semi-colonial society."

China would continue to learn advanced science and technology as well as culture from developed countries, "but this does not mean all decadent bourgeois ideology and dispirited things should be imported nor should China learn from all Western things," it added.

Chinese political leaders and the official media have stressed that the drive against pro-Western ideas will not affect economic reforms or be carried to the extreme.

Peng Zhen, chairman of the National People's Congress, told a visiting Panamanian delegation that recent changes in the party's leadership were "normal" and would result in better political and economic reforms in China.

"If there are any changes, they will result in further opening the country and reforming its economic and political systems," Mr. Peng said in apparent reference to Hu Yaobang.

Influential Indian journalist mediating in Sri Lanka

COLOMBO (R) — Six people were killed in Sri Lanka as an influential Indian journalist was due to begin mediating between the government and Tamil rebels for an end to the island's four-year-old ethnic conflict, government and authoritative sources said Saturday.

Three civilians died Friday when their vehicle hit a guerrilla landmine in eastern Trincomalee, where troops also shot dead two Tamil rebels, a government communication said.

It said a suspected rebel was killed when he tried to grab a gun from a sentry at a military camp in northern Vavuniya.

Authoritative sources said Narasimhan Ram, associate editor of the Madras-based Hindu newspaper, was to meet rebel leaders in the southern Indian city of Madras to work out a formula for talks between the Sri Lankan government and separatist Tamils fighting for an independent homeland.

Ram left Colombo on Friday after a three-day visit which included meetings with President Junius Jayewardene, National Security Minister Lalith Athulath-

modali and Lands Minister Gani Dissanayake, one of Mr. Jayewardene's closest aides.

Ram, is said to have good relations with rebel leaders who are based in Madras, the sources said.

The move occurred as security forces consolidated positions in their eight-day drive against the rebels.

A government spokesman told Reuters troops cleared a 56 kilometre road to Pullmudai from Trincomalee which was previously controlled by rebels.

"The headquarters of the main rebel group was destroyed and two other smaller hideouts smashed by troops," he said.

He said many rebel strongholds of the Liberation Tigers Tamil Eelam (LTTE), the main guerrilla group, were destroyed in both the north and the east and troops seized large stocks of arms and ammunition.

More than 5,000 people have died since communal violence flared in July 1983.

The sources said Sri Lankan leaders had accepted Ram's efforts to mediate.

2 students killed and 50 hurt in Bangladesh blasts

DHAKA (R) — At least two students were killed and 50 injured on Saturday when five petrol bombs exploded during a demonstration by Muslim fundamentalist students in the southern port city of Chittagong, police said.

They said the bombs were tossed by unidentified activists as hundreds of students from the Islamic Chhatra Shibir group were marching through city streets.

The explosion coincided with clashes outside the presidential palace in the capital, Dhaka, between police and about 500 student demonstrators.

The demonstrators were commemorating three colleagues killed by police gunfire in 1983 during protests against government education policy.

Police said three firecracker-type devices were thrown by unidentified people at Saturday's Dhaka protest but there were no injuries.

The Chittagong demonstration followed a six-hour city-wide strike called by the Shibir, the student wing of the fundamentalist Jamaat-E-Islami Party, in protest

at an attack by rival students on a Shibir meeting last Thursday near Chittagong, in which at least 15 students were hurt.

Police told Reuters 10 students were seriously hurt by Saturday's blasts.

At least five suspected "miscreants" had been arrested, police said, but gave no details.

The violence erupted as the major opposition party, the Awami League, prepared for an anti-government rally to muster support for a proposed half-day nationwide strike next Monday.

Key opposition figure Begum Khaleda Zia, leader of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party, called for a united movement to end the rule of President Hossain Mohammad Ershad and restore "people's democracy."

She told a rally at Chittagong on Friday that Lieutenant-General Ershad had "pushed Bangladesh to the brink of economic collapse, ruined political systems and scuttled efforts to restore lawless democracy."

"This is time we must work unitedly to unseat the hated dictator," she said.

Tutu: Christ will be detained in S. Africa

CAPE TOWN (R) — Anti-apartheid leader Desmond Tutu said Friday Jesus Christ would be in trouble if he came to South Africa now — and would almost certainly be detained. In a speech Tutu, the black Anglican archbishop of southern Africa, denounced detentions without trial as a "very handy device greatly beloved of totalitarian repressive governments."

"If Jesus came to South Africa today, he would get into trouble with the authorities because of his solidarity with the poor, the oppressed, the hungry and he would almost certainly be detained," Tutu said.

Experts discount value of 'Star of America'

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The "Star of America" sapphire, touted by its discoverer as worth \$2.28 million, is actually an insignificant stone worth less than one-twentieth that amount, experts say.

"I don't think the world million can enter into the conversation," said Elly Rosen, an independent appraiser who has been a gem consultant to the U.S. Internal Revenue Service, the government's tax collection agency. "I think the difficulty would be in the five figures."

Roy Whetstone of Kilgore, Texas, said he bought the potato-sized rock last year for \$10 and claimed he got offers of more than \$2 million. He has been displaying it this week at the annual winter gem and mineral show in Tucson, Arizona.

"It's an insignificant stone," said John Sampson White, curator of the national gem and mineral collection at the Smithsonian Institution. "We wouldn't buy it. We wouldn't want it. I don't think, even if it were offered to us, we certainly couldn't accept it as a gift, given the crazy values on it."

Whetstone bought the stone in February 1986 and the next month had the gemological institute of America certify it as a 1,906-carat, natural star sapphire.

Liberace estate to benefit foundation

LOS VEGAS (AP) — Entertainer Liberace's multimillion-dollar estate will be placed in a trust and the main beneficiary will be the foundation he created to support students in the creative arts, his lawyer said Friday.

"The bulk of his estate will go to the Liberace Foundation for the Performing and Creative Arts because of his love for enhancing students' lives," said attorney Joel Strote. The five-page will was drawn Jan. 22, 1987, two weeks before Liberace's death at his Palm Springs, California, home. The Riverside county coroner's office said after an autopsy that he died on an AIDS-related pneumonia. The will, filed in Clark County probate court here earlier this week, left all of Liberace's property to the trust, with Strote named as trustee. The will did not give any breakdown of the property involved in the estate. Strote said he had just begun the "enormous job" of trying to sort out Liberace's holdings. He said he did not know the value of the estate but said it would be substantial. Liberace had earned millions annually since becoming a superstar in the 1950s. He owned homes in Palm Springs and Malibu, California, Las Vegas and Lake Tahoe, Nevada, as well as a penthouse in Los Angeles and an apartment in New York City.

S. Korea on alert against AIDS outbreak

SEOUL (R) — South Korea will begin testing blood donors for the killer disease AIDS and will step up screening for the illness among workers in bars near U.S. military bases and in gay bars all over the country, the health ministry said Saturday.

The move came after a 62-year-old man suspected of having the acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) virus died. The man had been under extensive care since producing positive reactions in an AIDS anti-body blood test two weeks ago but died from a virus infection in the cerebral nervous system. The officials said the ministry would make it mandatory for hospitals and health institutions to perform AIDS antibody tests on blood donors, expected to number about 800,000 this year.

Disastrous weather claims 80 lives in Soviet Georgia

MOSCOW (AP) — Avalanches, landslides and flooding in the mountains of Georgia have claimed more than 80 lives this winter and destroyed 2,700 homes, the Communist Party daily Pravda reported Saturday.

Pravda gave few details on the disastrous weather, but previous reports have said that the heaviest snowfalls in 50 years hit the Caucasian mountains last month, cutting off many towns and villages from the outside world.

Thousands of people were stranded in their isolated homes for weeks, press reports said.

Assessing the damage and casualty toll, Pravda said the bad

weather was blamed for more than 80 deaths and that the avalanches and flooding "wiped 2,700 houses and 650 hospitals, clinics, schools and kindergartens off the face of the earth."

More than 197,000 acres of cultivated land were also destroyed, the paper said.

Pravda praised the bravery of people who worked in rescue efforts, especially Soviet soldiers. One young soldier, Rakhim Mamedov, "saved Georgian women, children and his comrades at the cost of his own life," the paper said without giving any details on how Mamedov was killed.

Seoul rejects Pyongyang's bid

SEOUL (AP) — In a letter on Saturday, South Korea called on North Korea to open suspended talks and rejected the North's bid for a new high-level political and military meeting, officials said.

The letter, signed by South Korean Prime Minister Lho Shin-Yong and Defence Minister Lee Ki-Baek, was in reply to a Jan. 30 letter from North Korean Premier Li Gun Mo and People's Armed Forces Minister O Jin U.

In the South Korean letter, released to reporters here, Mr. Lho and Mr. Lee renewed Seoul's previous request that Pyongyang unconditionally resume the suspended Red Cross, economic and parliamentary talks between the two countries and

that the North also agree to a summit meeting proposed by South Korean President Chu Doo-Hwan. Such dialogue is aimed at an eventual unification of the two Koreas, split since the end of World War II in 1945.

The two North Korean officials in their joint letter proposed that high-level political and military talks be held first, and that if they were successful, then resumption of the suspended talks and the proposed summit meeting could take place.

Pyeongyang broke off the three existing channels of dialogue in early 1985 to protest an annual U.S.-South Korea joint military exercise called "Team Spirit."

Salvador rebels launch new attack

SAN SALVADOR (R) — The armed forces said Friday eight soldiers and 10 rebels were killed in a seven-hour battle in eastern El Salvador but rebel radio put the number of dead at 25.

An armed forces statement said 12 soldiers and three civilians had also been wounded in fighting around the town of Delicias de Concepcion.

Rebel Radio Venceremos said leftist guerrillas had killed 25 soldiers and wounded 24.

It was the second major rebel attack in two months in the area and military sources said it produced the fiercest fighting of the year.

Troops combed at least five provinces in a new drive against the guerrillas, they said.

Colonel Mauricio Vargas, commander of Morazan province where the fighting took place, told Reuters rebels mortared the town from three sides shortly before midnight and exchanged fire with troops until dawn.

In a telex sent to news agencies Friday, the rebels claimed they killed 25 government soldiers and wounded 24. They also claimed they shot down a helicopter and destroyed a tank during the fighting.

The rebels, who have been fighting the U.S.-backed army for more than seven years, declared a new offensive Jan. 5. Since early December they have staged a host of raids, mostly on small military outposts.

Nicaraguan rebel leaders said to have settled squabbles

WASHINGTON (AP) — Nicaraguan rebel leader Arturo Cruz has withdrawn his threat to abandon his post in the United Nicaraguan Opposition (UNO) and is expected to make a formal announcement next week, U.S. officials said Friday.

The circumstances of Mr. Cruz's change of heart were unclear, but it apparently came about as a result of an intense State Department mediation effort.

Mr. Cruz has repeatedly clashed with his rebel colleague, Adolfo Calero, and the two Nicaraguans met separately with Assistant Secretary of State Elliott Abrams in an attempt to work out a reconciliation.

State Department officials said they were under instructions to say nothing about the consultations, but one source said he understood an accommodation was worked out.

Mr. Abrams said on Wednesday it would be a real blow to the resistance if Mr. Cruz were to leave UNO. Other officials, who requested anonymity, said the prospects for continued congressional support for the contras would be sharply diminished if Mr. Cruz were to carry out his threat to resign.

Mr. Cruz told the U.S. ABC television network on Wednesday he had made up his mind to quit, but State Department officials said they did not accept that announcement as final.

Mr. Cruz is a former Sandinista ambassador to Washington who became disillusioned with the revolution and eventually joined forces with Mr. Calero and a third member of the UNO leadership, Alfonso Robelo, an original member of the Sandinista junta which took power in 1979.

Mr. Cruz has expressed concern that Mr. Calero and other leaders of the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN), the main contra guerrilla group, lack a commitment to democratic values.

He has said that the ouster of the Sandinista "clique" could lead to the establishment of an equally undemocratic government.

International peace forum opens in Moscow

MOSCOW (R) — A Kremlin-sponsored international forum on peace opened in Moscow on Saturday with more than 900 foreign showbusiness stars, writers, scientists, doctors, religious leaders and political scientists in attendance.

The event, formally called "The International Forum for a Nuclear-Free World and the Survival of Humanity," will consist of seven separate round-table discussions. It concludes on Monday with a speech by Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

"Participants in the three-day forum will discuss the major problem of our times — how to prevent a nuclear holocaust and strengthen peace and cooperation," Moscow Radio said.

The diverse list of Western personalities taking part in the discussions includes writers Graham Greene and Norman Mailer, rock musician Yoko Ono and film stars Paul Newman, Claudia Cardinale, Shirley MacLaine and Gregory Peck.

Susan Eisenhower, granddaughter of the late U.S. president, former Pentagon analyst Daniel Ellsberg, French fashion designer Pierre Cardin and Dr. Bernard Lown and Dr. Yevgeny Chazov, co-winners of the 1985 Nobel Peace Prize, will also attend.

Another Nobel peace laureate, dissident physicist Andrei Sakharov, is due to take part in the scientists' round table. His wife Yelena Bonner said he would decide whether to speak after hearing how the discussions proceeded.

Tokyo expects U.S. to consult it over SDI

TOKYO (AP) — Japan will hold the United States to its commitment to consult with Tokyo before deploying a "Star Wars" anti-missile defence system, a defence official says.

Such consultations would focus on, among other things, whether strategic defences would be a "destabilising factor" on the international scene, said Hiromoto Seki, director-general for international affairs at the Japanese Defence Agency.

Mr. Seki, in an interview with AP was commenting on reports from Washington that the Reagan administration may accelerate development and deployment of the strategic defence initiative (SDI) by broadening the official American interpretation of the 1972 U.S.-Soviet treaty restricting such anti-missile shields.

Like Japan, U.S. allies in Western Europe also have expressed concern about such early deployment of an SDI system. The Japanese last year agreed

to allow their high-technology companies to take part in U.S. research on SDI, which is envisioned as a "complex defence system involving lasers, particle-beam weapons and high-speed command computers."

The Japanese involvement has not yet taken shape, however, pending the Tokyo government's development of a formal framework for participation.

On Wednesday, Japan's ambassador to Washington, Nobuo Matsunaga, asked the U.S. State Department for an explanation of the early-deployment reports. Foreign Ministry spokesman Yoshifumi Matsuda told reporters here.

The spokesman noted that Japan agreed to join in SDI research on condition that the system be developed in conformity with the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) treaty, and that the United States consult with its allies and negotiate with the Soviet Union before deploying the system.

Buchanan pursues drive against Linas deportation

WASHINGTON (AP) — White House aide Patrick Buchanan said Friday he had urged Attorney General Edwin Meese to meet with East European groups trying to stop the deportation of suspected war criminal Karl Linas to the Soviet Union.

Mr. Buchanan had met with Mr. Meese at the Justice Department and said before entering the attorney general's office that the Linas case probably would be on the agenda.

Mr. Meese is considering whether to turn over Mr. Linas, 67, an immigrant who was stripped of his U.S. citizenship in 1981, to the Soviet government. The Soviets maintain Mr. Linas

U.S. is unhappy over Soviet film on Palme

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States has expressed concern over a Swedish television station over its plans to broadcast a Soviet documentary alleging that the U.S. government was responsible for the murder of Prime Minister Olof Palme, the State Department said Friday.

Deputy spokeswoman Phyllis Oakley said the U.S. embassy press counselor in Stockholm, John Thompson, told the director of the station planning to air the film that the allegations of U.S. culpability are "malicious and outrageous."

The station, which is independent, will show the film on the Feb. 28 anniversary of Mr. Palme's murder on a Stockholm street. The crime remains unsolved.

Oakley said Mr. Thompson made no request that the film not be aired.

In Stockholm, Swedish Television accused the U.S. embassy of interference after the diplomats protested against the planned screening of the film suggesting the CIA might have killed Mr. Palme.

Meanwhile, the Swedish government strongly denied being blackmailed by police over the investigation into the Palme murder.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND AMAR SHARIF
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WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠K72 ♣K3 ♢32 ♠853
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1♣ 3♦ 3♣ Pass
Pass 3♣ Pass ?
What action do you take?

Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠AK10952 ♠AKJ82
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1♣ Pass 4♣ Pass ?
What action do you take?

Q.3—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠KJ982 ♠AQ83 ♢872 ♠5
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1♣ 1♣ Pass ?
What do you bid now?

Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠A10762 ♠854 ♢2 ♠A76
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1♣ Pass 1♣ Pass
4♣ Pass ?
What action do you take?

Q.5—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠85 ♠K3 ♠AKQ873 ♠K104
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1♣ 1♣ 1NT Pass
What action do you take?

Q.6—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠KS782 ♠A ♠AJ93 ♠K103
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1♣ Pass 2NT Pass ?
What do you bid now?

Court order threatens U.S. white supremacist group

MIAMI (R) — One of the largest U.S. white supremacist Ku Klux Klan (KKK) groups could be financially ruined by a \$7 million jury award to the family of lynched black man, experts said.

This is a devastating blow to the Klan and demonstrates to all hate groups that they will be held responsible for the consequences of their preachings and acts of violence," said Mark Alfonso, a spokesman for the Atlanta-based Centre for Democratic Renewal, which monitors Ku Klux Klan activities.

An all-white federal jury in Mobile, Alabama, on Thursday ordered the United Klans of America, the largest of several rival Klan organisations, and six members to pay damages for the 1981 slaying of 19-year-old

Michael Donald. Two of the members were convicted of the killing in 1983. Stuart Lewengrub, south east regional director of the Anti-Defamation League, said the jury award threatened the financial survival of the United Klans.

He said the 2,500-member organisation faced the possible seizure of its \$125,000 headquarters in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, as partial payment of the award. "Except for that, the United Klans don't have more than a few pennies to their name," Lewengrub said. "They could be financially ruined."

He said most United Klans members are poor, uneducated whites from rural Alabama and Georgia who can barely afford to

pay the group's \$10-a-month fee. Morris Dees, lawyer for the victim's family and an anti-klan crusader, said in court Donald's murder was part of a pattern of racial intimidation and attacks inspired by top leaders of the United Klans.

Earl Shinnoster, south east regional director of the National Association for Advancement of Coloured People, said he hoped the verdict would force the Klan and other hate groups to tone down their rhetoric and refrain from violence.

"The racist leaders have to realise that they are now at risk," he said.

The court judgment came amid increased publicity for the Klan, which launched a campaign of

terror against former slaves after the civil war.

White-robed klansmen, including members of the United Klans, were among angry whites who confronted civil rights marchers in Forsyth County, Georgia, last month.

The first rally, on Jan. 14 by about 50 marchers, was attacked by a mob of several hundred whites who threw rocks, yelled death threats and chanted "Nigger go home."

A week later, some 20,000 civil rights supporters marched through the all-white county under the protection of National Guard troops. Sixty white counter-demonstrators were arrested for attempting to disrupt the march.

JPL in 1987